

After the Airport • The Gandy Dancer Critiqued
The Scavenger's Last Frontier • Softball Mania

Ann Arbor Observer

June, 1979

Vol. III, No. 10



Good-bye to Everett's

The Ups and Downs of Dick Berger



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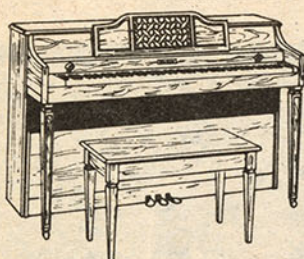
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Ann Arbor Observer

JUNE, 1979

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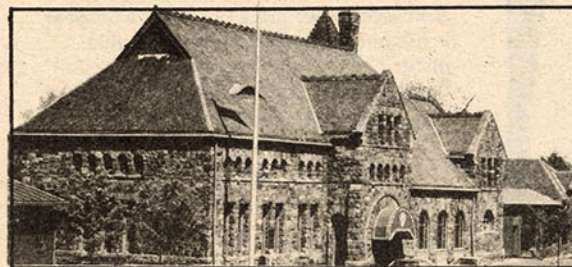
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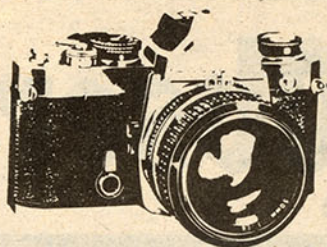


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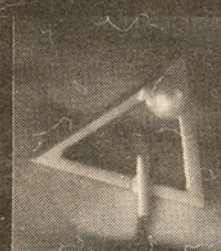
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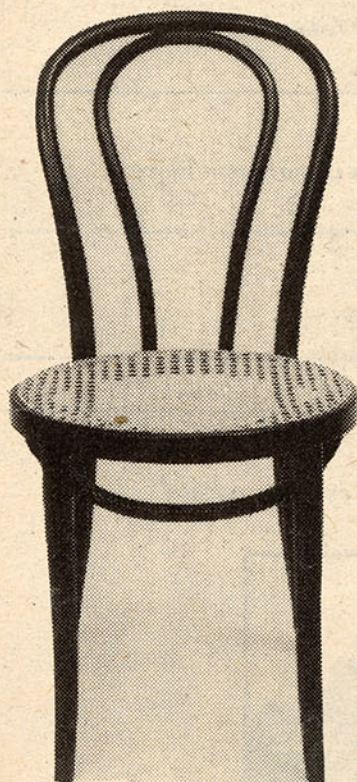
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LETTERS

We Stand Corrected

The article on the new Beth Israel Synagogue in your April issue contains two inaccuracies. First, there are two synagogues in Ann Arbor, and we of Beth Emeth are as proud of our unique building as Beth Israel is of its building. Beth Israel, then, is not "the first Ann Arbor Jewish congregation to have its own synagogue."

Second, your labeling of Reform Judaism as "secular" is erroneous. There are three main religious interpretations of Judaism. The better to apply the wisdom of Judaism to modern life, Reform Jews are more liberal in interpreting classic Jewish law than are Conservative and Orthodox Jews. Yet ours remains very much a religious movement.

Ralph D. Mecklenburger, Rabbi
Temple Beth Emeth

Beth Israel is the sole owner of its new building, while Beth Emeth and St. Clare's Episcopal Church jointly own their house of worship at 2300 Packard Road—a pioneering step in interfaith co-operation.

Our apologies for the use of "secular" we didn't intend to imply that Reform Judaism is not religious, simply that it is more humanistic in its orientation than the more conservative branches of Judaism.

A Guidebook We Missed

Thanks for your listing in the May Observer of guidebooks about the area. One not listed but of particular interest to parents of young children is *Things to See and Do around Ann Arbor*. This is a marvelous compendium of everything from parks to museums, farms to factories, tours and entertainment. It's updated every few years and is published by the Ann Arbor Nursery, Inc. For more than twenty years I've kept this handy booklet around for its maps and other information. It's available on local newsstands.

Alisande Cutler

Why Not the Best?

Just a note to say thanks for a job well done in revealing what a lousy job most members of the city's Planning Commission are doing. Ann Arbor needs people who really care about the city and how it develops on that important commission. Is it that hard for our mayor to find more dedicated citizens to serve?

Daniel Safford

Should Untenured Profs Teach?

I found your article on Joel Samoff and the tenure situation at the U-M perceptive and comprehensive. It does seem right that it is quite difficult to get tenure, for a tenured position is unusually secure.

What seems wrong, however, is that those who are working madly on their research projects to get tenure must also be given the duty of teaching undergraduate students. I imagine that few such assistant professors can dedicate themselves sufficiently to the difficult job of teaching under such circumstances (Samoff notwithstanding).

Joyce Grothe

A Remedy for Uncut Lawns

I've noticed sprinkled all around central Ann Arbor—particularly the districts with a high percentage of rental housing—a lot of lawns which have yet to be mown this year. Needless to say, they give a shoddy look to the area. Is there a city law covering lawn mowing? And if so, who is responsible: the tenant or the landlord?

James Duncan

There is such an ordinance. It requires that grass grow no higher than sixteen inches or the city, after warning the property owner, will have the grass cut and bill the owner. The law is enforced on a complaint basis. For rental housing, the landlord, not the tenant, is responsible for seeing that the grass is cut. If you have a complaint, call the city's Solid Waste Department at 994-2807.

Defender of the One True Meaning

I really appreciate getting the Observer, and I find it fills a gap in my information about Ann Arbor. I'm pleased with the strenuously disinterested coverage of political happenings and with the coverage of restaurants and events, particularly the comings and goings of our familiar businesses. (Whatever did happen to the Athenian?)

As these things go, however, I probably would never have bothered to write had it not been for the occurrence of the ever-popular misuse of "disinterested" where "uninterested" is intended. [Editor's note: the following sentence appeared in the article on poor Planning Commission attendance in our May issue: "A conscientious commissioner will do all those things; disinterested ones may skimp on their homework."]]

Those of us who consider ourselves staunch and stodgy defenders of the One True Meaning are most likely to be whelmed over by the tide of popular misuse. I rarely see the "correct" use any more, even in such presumably lofty tomes as the *Saturday Review*. (Carll Tucker, editor, blew it at least once.)

Picayunely yours,
Paul Brindle

Last Issue Lauded

A fan letter to tell you how superb your last issue was, with the really excellent article on Joel Samoff. I felt so much better after reading it because it clearly presented both sides of the issue, in a careful, cool way.

Your analysis of the city election was good too. In fact, I enjoy the whole thing.

It so happens that I work at the University, but you offer something for everyone.

Barbara T. Whipple

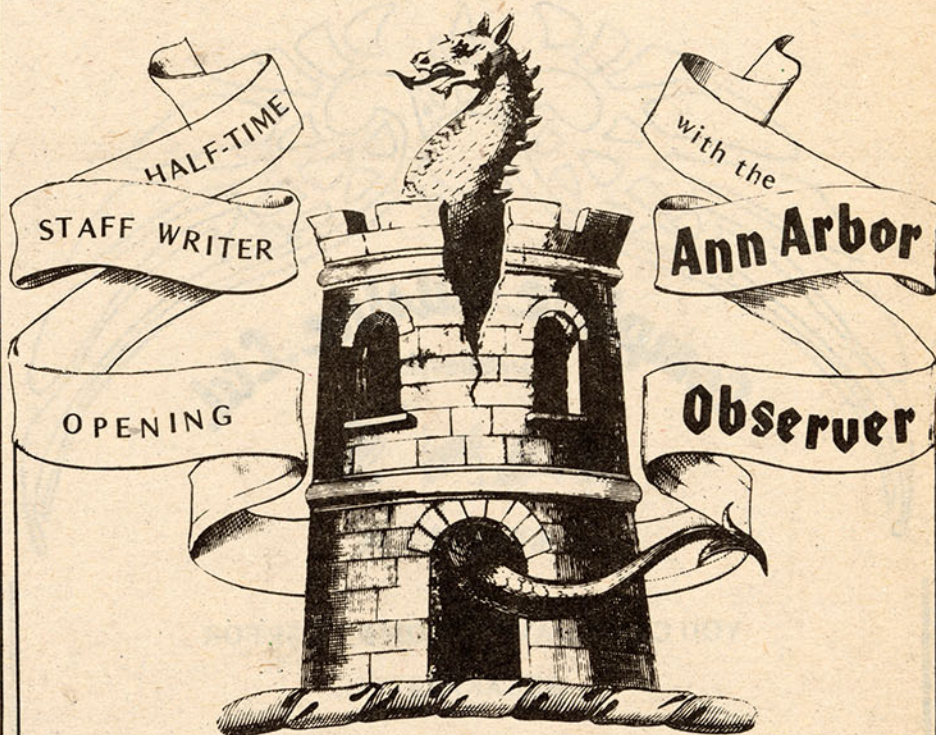
Prestige vs. Medical Costs

I read with interest your article, "Behind the U. Hospital Controversy," in which you point out that a major concern of university officials in getting a big, fancy new hospital is the national academic reputation of the U-M Medical School and the university as a whole. If in fact the cost of this academic prestige is higher medical bills for everyone in the area, I, for one, say: It ain't worth it!

Frank Ellis

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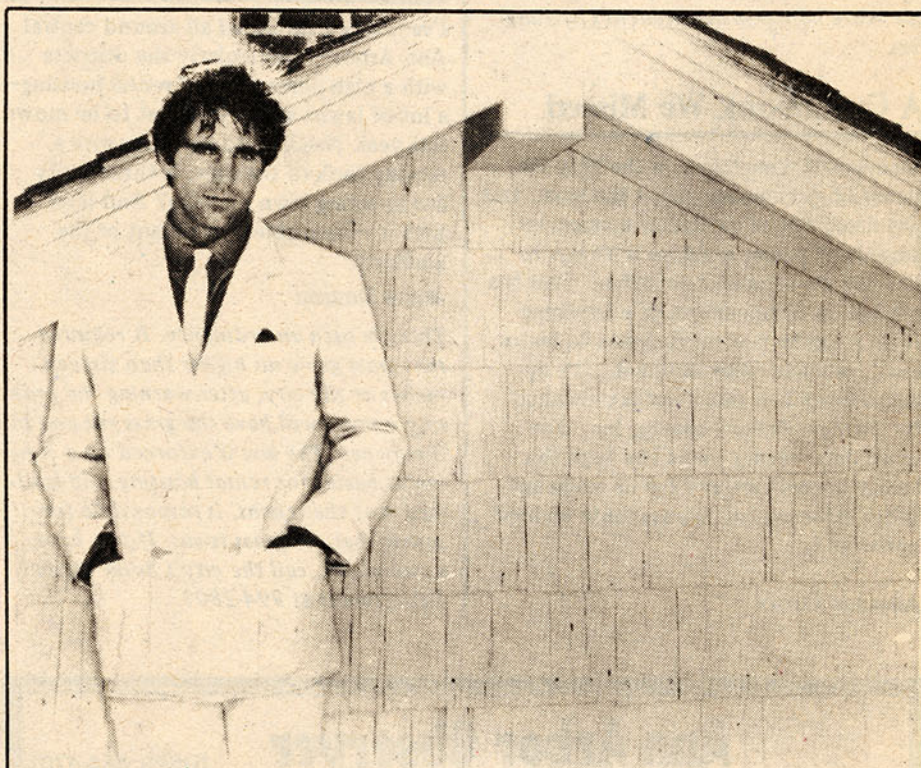
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AROUND TOWN



Where Have All the Farmers Gone?

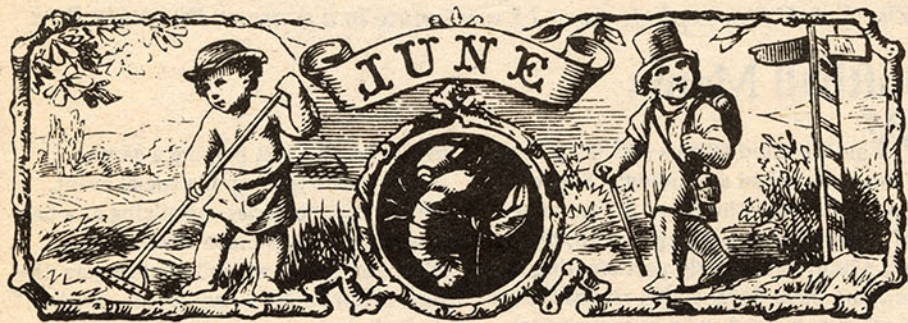
For the first time in a long while, there aren't enough farmers to fill the stalls at the Farmers Market. It's a three-year-old trend, and the situation may get worse in the future. There are about 100 farmers now selling their produce, down from about 125 in 1976.

Market manager Grace Bennett tells us that a primary reason for the decline is that fewer young farmers are replacing the old farmers who are retiring. "It used to be that a larger percentage of farm children went into farming themselves," she told us. "We don't have that any more. Most now go into other occupations. So it's the same farm families which have been here for years and years and years. And these people are getting up beyond 65, and they have cut back on their own farms because they can't tend them any longer. I know there's a couple farms been sold this year, and we've had three deaths, and some of the older farmers are saying, 'I'm not going to put in the

acreage I put in last year.'" Three to five acres is the typical size of land planted by a farmer who sells at the market.

There was a small trend back in the later 1960's and early 1970's for younger people with counter-culture values to "get back to the land." We asked Ms. Bennett what happened to those people. "Yeah, that was a spurt that sort of died out. I had about three or four that came here in that spurt on a regular basis, and then they dropped out. This farming is hard, down-on-your-knees work," she said, implying that this was not the life such novice farmers were really seeking.

When the economy is good enough, she told us, people tend to get other, less demanding kinds of jobs. "This drop in farmers happened one other time in the history of the market. But the Depression came, and when times are tough and money is short, we have no problem with filling the market with produce." □



June's Weather

June is definitely one of the nicest months in Ann Arbor in terms of weather. The daily temperature averages a not-too-hot high of 79.5 degrees Fahrenheit and a not-too-cold low of 58.2 degrees. True, in June, 1934, it got up to 103 degrees in Ann Arbor, and in June, 1947, the thermometer dipped to 39 degrees, but these are freak incidents in a normally mild month.

June does tend to be a fairly rainy month in Ann Arbor, however. In fact, between 1951 and 1975, June has been the month of highest total rainfall: 3.4 inches, compared with 2.7 inches in May and 3.1 inches in April. In case you're wondering, January is the month of least precipitation in Ann Arbor—averaging only 1.7 inches. □

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AROUND TOWN /continued



Walt Kemnitz with the only discarded can or bottle he can find — and a pre-bottle bill no-deposit can at that.

After the Bottle Law

There's been a lot of grumbling after Michigan's bottle and can law went into effect last December. The five to twenty cent deposit on bottles and cans means more trouble for consumers and retailers, and some people are even thinking of trying to repeal the law. But the law is working, and one of its most blessed effects, points out Walter Kemnitz, is that littering has been substantially reduced.

Kemnitz lives on Huron River Drive, one of the most scenic roads in the area. But before the bottle law, large amounts of cans and bottles would accumulate along the road. When Sierra Club mem-

bers periodically policed the area, they would fill many large bags with debris.

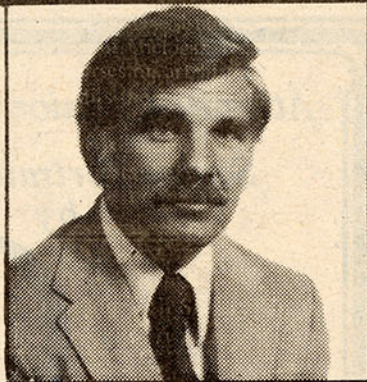
Today there's a dramatic difference, says Kemnitz, and he proved it by showing us what used to be one of the worst littering areas along the river. Several minutes' search turned up only one beer can — and a non-returnable can made before the bottle law at that.

The only major remaining litter problem, Kemnitz tells us, results from the paper and plastic containers from fast food places like McDonald's and Burger King. They are unfortunately just as prominent features of the landscape as ever.

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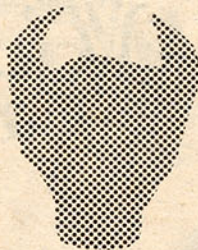
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Softball Mania

What's behind all this softball playing in town, we asked a sociologist friend of ours recently who plays the game herself. There are something like 10,000 Ann Arborites regularly participating in the sport these days, which means there's no other organized sport in town which approaches it in popularity.

"You're probably expecting me to give you a sociological answer, and you're right," she replied. "It all has to do with the social cohesiveness of the town," she explained, using the sociological term for how close-knit a group of people is. "Ann Arbor is a town with very low social cohesiveness," she said with certainty. "Most people here have very few social links to the rest of the community. A large percentage of those who play

softball aren't just playing a game—they're participating in a social event, which often includes socializing at a bar or at somebody's place after the game. It's a way in a town full of strangers like Ann Arbor to get to know one another."

O.K., but why is softball so popular right now, we asked? Softball's been around for a long time.

"Haven't you heard? This is the 'me' generation" was her ready reply. "People are taking their leisure time a lot more seriously than in the past. They're more concerned with enjoying themselves, and softball, with its twin play and social rewards, is an attractive choice."

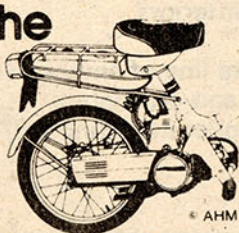
"One other thing," she concluded, "you don't have to be in very good shape to play softball."



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Our run-down of price ranges in several central-area buildings is derived from official sources (when available) and prospective tenants.

For a medium-size suite of 1000 square feet, \$9 a square foot works out to \$750 a month. Bear in mind that prices vary according to a host of negotiable factors including length of lease (three years is standard), condition of space, size (smaller spaces cost more per square foot), and whether additional work such as installing partitions is required.

The cost of upper-floor space is often comparable to ground-floor retail space because of the greater costs of maintaining and managing office space. The build-

ing management provides costly janitorial service and maintains common areas like hallways, restrooms, and elevators, while retail tenants typically provide all interior maintenance and improvements themselves and in addition wash the windows, sweep sidewalks, and shovel snow.

Location	Rent/square foot/year
338 S. State (over Bacchus Garden)	\$7.50
Michigan Theater Building	\$7.50-8.50
First National Building, Main at Washington	\$7.50-8.50
Wolverine Building, Washington at Fourth	\$9-11 for improved space, repainted, recarpeted and partly renovated
City Center Building, Huron at Fifth Ave.	\$9-11 including electricity
101 W. Liberty (Downtown Racquet Club building)	\$10.50 for completely renovated space if available
East Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Fifth	\$12 completely renovated

Washington Square in Ann Arbor?

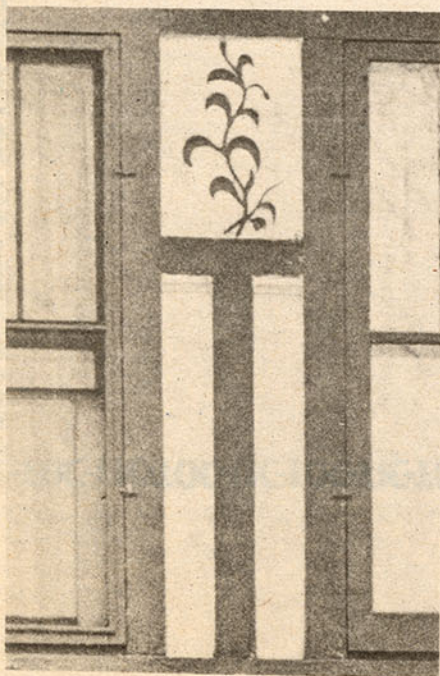
The newly-renovated Wolverine Building at Fourth and Washington will soon be known as "Washington Square"—shades of Greenwich Village and Henry James—in one of those flights of fancy so dear to real estate promoters' hearts. The name change will certainly be deplored by defenders of the language. "Square" means an open area or plaza, of course, not a building at all. But Washington Square property manager Peter Allen tells us that "building" is "too awkward" a word.

"Building" may have been good enough for the Woolworth Building, the Empire State Building, and, closer to home, Detroit's elegant Fisher Building,

but for contemporary real estate managers who aspire to any grandeur for their properties, apparently a more pretentious title is required—"tower" or "square" or "plaza"—or "center" at the very least.

We now have Michigan Square (actually a building) down the street from East Liberty Plaza (another building). Liberty Plaza, however, is an urban open space in the correct meaning of the word "plaza." But the public has become so confused that sponsors of open-air events located there have taken to referring to it as Liberty-Division Park.

Test of the Town




The metaphysical riddle shown in last month's Test of the Town ("I am a shadow, so art thou; I mark time, so dost thou.") is on the sundial at Mack School, 920 Miller. It can just barely be seen from Miller Avenue. Judy Gross and Bert Ghezzi were the lucky winners chosen from among the correct responses.

This month's mystery photo is a detail on a house somewhere west of Main Street. If you can identify it correctly, you could win a record album of your choice from the Liberty Music Shop, 417 East Liberty. Send us the exact address, postmarked on or before Thursday, June 7, and we will choose by lot two of the correct answers as winners. (Hand deliveries will be automatically disallowed.)

Mail answers to Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 48104.

—Bob Breck

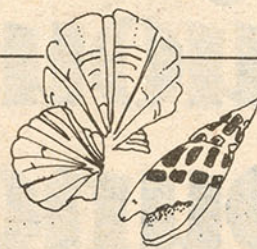


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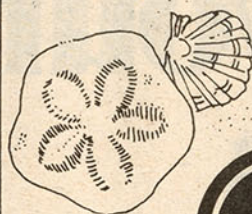
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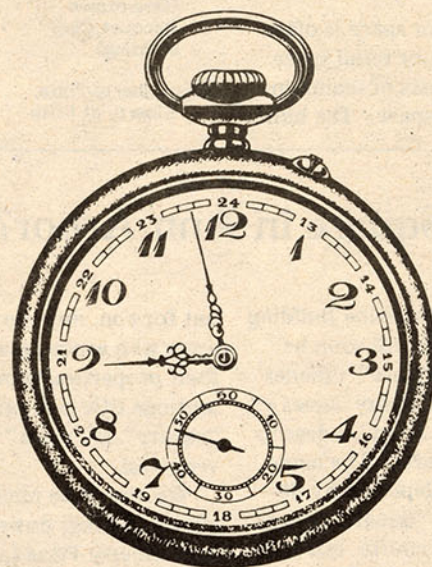
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The Ups and Downs of Dick Berger

When he came to town eleven years ago, Dick Berger tried to build an empire. Now he's trying again.

By DON HUNT

In a town whose citizens are as environmentally conscious and repeatedly hostile to developers as Ann Arbor, the project announced late this past winter by Dick Berger was about as audacious as an attempt to open a Playboy club in present-day Tehran.

What Berger proposed is an enormous \$60 million "total activity center" called Riverside Plaza to be built on the southern bank of the Huron River just east of where Main and M-14 intersect. The complex would include a 22-story, 400-room hotel (almost twice the size of any other hotel in town); three large restaurants; a 15,000-square-foot ballroom; a 30,000-square-foot convention center which can accommodate 1,500 for dinner; 150,000 square feet of office and commercial space; and 150 two-bedroom condominiums.

Few people would be so bold as Dick Berger in staking his time and money — and perhaps his future — in such a grandiose scheme. Although Berger hired well-known local architects, engineers, planners, PR people, and lawyers to lay the groundwork for his project, and although he carefully helped pave the way by giving private presentations to key people throughout the city before the project was officially announced, its public unveiling quickly elicited howls of protest from seemingly every neighbor within a half-mile of the project, as well as from dozens of other Ann Arborites who believe that the banks of the Huron River should be unsullied by such massive developments.

Berger had instructed his architects to keep the project's impact on the river and plant life to a minimum. Still there was no way that a huge \$60-million facility could keep from causing major changes in the area. Some, including Berger, see the area out along North Main as a semi-blighted mélange of junkyards, abandoned fields, and low-rent office facilities. But many others — especially those who live in the area — appreciate the low-intensity land use. They fear North Main would become another Washenaw commercial strip if Riverside Plaza were built.

A Treacherous Field

Berger's boldness went beyond simply proposing a project sure to create wide-

spread opposition. He had never before acted as a developer for so much as a single-family home. He plunged into one of the most complex and treacherous of entrepreneurial fields at a level few experienced developers would dare to go. One developer I spoke with — a person who has put together a number of multimillion dollar projects — scoffed at the idea that Berger had even the faintest chance of obtaining the necessary funding for the expensive project. "You're talking about a project the size of the Pontiac Silverdome," he told me. "And he's got no experience whatsoever. Who's going to lend millions of dollars to a guy like that?"

If in fact the \$60 million project were hopeless from the very outset, it was never evident from talking to Dick Berger. Riverside Plaza represented a personal investment of over \$100,000 and ten

months of hard work for the native Chicagoan, who works out of a modest, one-person downtown office in the Fritz Building. When he talked about the project, Berger spoke with breathless enthusiasm. He believed Riverside Plaza would for the first time allow most Ann Arborites, not just a relative few, to enjoy the river, that it would generate some \$2 million annually in local taxes, that it would strengthen downtown by offsetting the importance of the growing Briarwood business area, which he believes in another decade could grow so large as to give downtown a backwater image.

Berger is the type of person who gets fully emotionally involved in whatever project he is promoting, and most impartial observers agree he was a good salesman of the ambitious Riverside Plaza plan. He came to meetings with many facts and figures to back up his claims,

and not a few people were convinced by him that Riverside Plaza would be a net benefit for the city.

Nevertheless, it became increasingly apparent as the weeks went by that the neighborhood opposition mounting against the proposed development would likely cause the City Council to deny necessary rezoning of Berger's land. Towards the end of May, Berger finally withdrew the project, angrily denouncing the city and its citizens for their lack of support.

The night before this announcement, Berger had attended a Planning Commission meeting during which one person after another stood up and criticized him and his plan. These criticisms were not all that much more vituperative than is usual in this town for neighborhood groups determined to stop developments. Perhaps they wouldn't have caused Berger to throw in his cards so quickly if more people had actively supported the project. But with no other organization in town except the Conference and Visitors Bureau openly backing the scheme, and no one that night to speak in his defense, Berger's ears clearly burned after hearing one stinging attack after another. One hour after the meeting, brooding alone in his downtown apartment, he decided to hell with it.

Knowing I was writing an article on him and his project, Berger called the next morning to tell me of his decision. "This town is not good enough for Riverside Plaza," he said.

By all accounts, Berger's strongpoint is his ability as a salesman. "Dick Berger could sell sand to an Arab," said a person who worked for him a decade ago.

In embarking on the Riverside Plaza project, Berger was probably gambling that his unusual powers of persuasion would sell the city on the huge development. But what he failed to appreciate was that no amount of salesmanship was going to win over most residents in the project area or most environmentalists opposed to the project. What Berger wanted to do with that 34 acre parcel of land on the Huron River was diametrically opposed to what these people want to see done with it. No amount of talk extolling the virtues of the \$60 million development was going to change their minds.

Most experienced developers realize that Ann Arborites are quite sensitive to development in their city and are prepared to raise holy hell if necessary to stop a project they don't like. Berger



Photos by Peter Yates

apparently didn't realize this, and it cost him a lot of time and money.

The Downfall of Wagner's

Riverside Plaza isn't the first setback for the 45-year-old Berger, who came to Ann Arbor from Chicago eleven years ago to head Wagner and Company, the biggest men's clothing store in town. When Berger bought Wagner's in 1968, the firm was 120 years old, a well-respected Ann Arbor fixture. Just six years later, the firm was bankrupt, the result of Berger's overly ambitious plans.

Berger bought Wagner's when he was 34 years old. Before coming to Ann Arbor, he lived in Chicago with his wife, Josepha, and their five children. Berger was the midwest manager there for a Philadelphia clothing manufacturer. One of his firm's customers was Wagner's, and Berger got to know store owner Paul Wagner, the fourth in the Wagner line to run the store. Wagner was ready to retire but had no family member to replace him. He wanted to keep the store locally owned and run, and after a number of discussions with Berger, a deal was made, and Berger took over the company. Berger would pay for the business in installments over the years, with Paul Wagner



Final straw: Marshall McLennan speaking at the May 22 Planning Commission meeting, one of many Ann Arborites who lambasted Riverside Plaza that evening. Shortly after the meeting, Berger withdrew the project, but he still has two more Ann Arbor developments on the drawing board.

staying on as a consultant.

Within a few years of his arrival in Ann Arbor, Berger was an active civic figure. He became the first president of Ann Arbor Tomorrow. He was elected to the boards of directors of the University Musical Society, the State Street Association, Briarwood, and Plymouth Mall. He also headed drives for the United Fund and the American Cancer Society.

Berger was no less energetic in his ef-

forts to make Wagner's something more than just a fine men's clothing store. He wanted to head a firm that was *first class* — above and beyond anything else that could be found in the area.

"We paid our people way above the average scale for retailers," he told me. "Retailing has historically been a low-paying field. You don't attract top brains except in the upper echelons. I didn't have that philosophy. My philosophy was that the people who work for us have got to be paid better than anyone else in the business because they're special people. Everybody calls them 'clerks.' We called our people 'wardrobe consultants,' and maybe it was corny, but it added a dimension to their lives that they wouldn't have had working at Penney's."

"When we built Wagner's at Briarwood and Plymouth Mall in 1973, these were the kinds of stores that could have been built with a lot less money. But my style was that we wanted a first-class operation because down the pike it would last much longer. It was a philosophy, and the philosophy didn't pay off."

When Berger says he wanted to go first-class, he wasn't just talking. He spent many tens of thousands of dollars remodeling the State Street Wagner's, then introduced designer fashions costing hundreds of dollars each. He added a \$20,000 escalator to the store and jacked up the pay of Wagner's employees, at the same time lengthening their vacation time. He even added a person to the staff whose job it was to park customers' cars and retrieve them when their owners were

ready to leave.

And if these expensive embellishments weren't enough, Berger started establishing branches all over town. He put a small store inside Goodyear's downtown, then built another large store at Plymouth Mall. Within a few months, an even larger store opened at Briarwood. But in less than a year after the Briarwood store opened, the entire Berger empire — much of it only a few months old — collapsed. Wagner's was forced into involuntary bankruptcy.

Berger's Mistakes

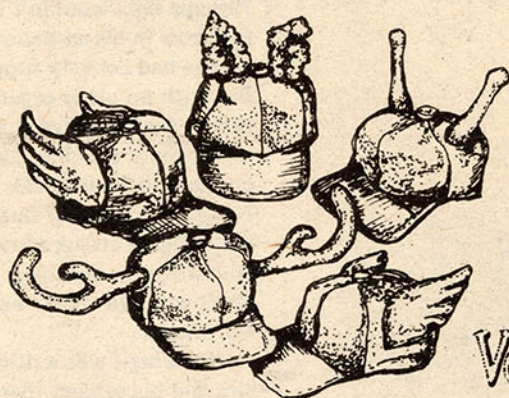
None of the people I talked to who worked for Wagner's back when Berger was heading it want to be quoted by name, but their comments make it clear that Berger made two big mistakes when he took over the financially sound clothing firm in '68. First, he wouldn't listen to others — whether it be the shrewd, experienced Paul Wagner or the many Wagner's employees with decades of experience. As one person put it, "He made all his own decisions, and when anybody tried to tell him something, he wouldn't listen. He thought his judgment was by far the best." Another ex-Wagner's employee said, "Some of us at the store used to tell him to slow down, but he just wouldn't take notice of the older people there. His favorite expression was, 'I don't give a damn what you do as long as you do it my way.'"

Berger could have saved a lot of time and trouble had he listened to his employees about Ann Arbor tastes in clothes. Instead, his penchant for "first-class things" seems to have dominated his reasoning. "His whole buying attitude was wrong," one past Wagner's employee said. "He was a great believer in designer stuff like Oscar de la Renta — big fancy names that carried terrific price tags. This doesn't go over too good in Ann Arbor." Despite the affluence of many of its citizens, Ann Arbor is not a dress-up town, and the expensive designer clothing eventually had to be sold at drastically reduced prices. It was a mistake that tied up thousands of dollars in inventory when the company was finding it increasingly difficult to get credit to buy enough clothes to fill the racks of its new stores.

Berger's first expansion into Goodyear's with a men's clothing store was also ill-advised, "a disaster from the word go," according to a person who worked there. He explained the mistake this way: "Berger failed to negotiate the thing properly with Phil Pargh (then President of Goodyear's), and consequently we never had our separate entrance. So all the men customers had to walk through ladies' hosiery and the handbag and cosmetic departments to get to the Wagner's shop. A lot of guys won't do that. I remember Paul Wagner came down to see it, and he said, 'This is not going to work.'"

But it wasn't just Berger's failure to listen to others which doomed Wagner's, I was told. More than this, it was his *grandiosity* — the same word used by several past associates to explain Berger's fatal flaw. Berger seemed compelled to think big — in price, in space, in salaries, in decor. This tendency reached its final climax with the opening of the Briarwood Wagner's in 1974. The interior cost well over the projected amount. As a result,

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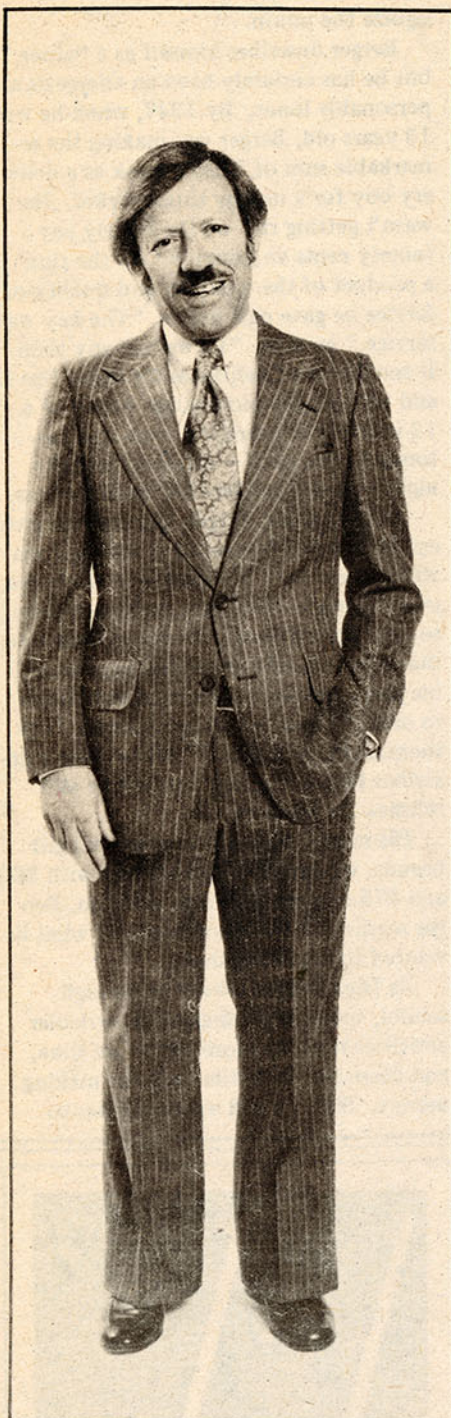
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"Dick Berger could sell sand to an Arab," said one of his employees back when he owned Wagner's.

there was not enough money left to stock the branch store with merchandise. When Wagner's finally folded, the store had never once held a full complement of clothing.

Some people I talked to who worked with or under Berger back when he headed Wagner's are philosophical in their assessment of him. Most see him as a basically honest man flawed by an oversized ego. But some are still bitter. One ex-

Wagner employee says he lost \$8000 from his pension fund because Berger took the money from the retirement fund set up by Paul Wagner for his employees and put it in potentially more lucrative blue-chip stocks. The ex-Berger employee says the stocks plummeted in value, creating substantial losses for those who had paid into the plan.

Berger denies that the stocks went down in price. In fact, he says they went up, and that everyone in the plan benefited from his actions.

The Wagner bankruptcy also caused twenty-three investors who put up \$183,000 for the Briarwood Wagner's store to lose every cent they had invested. One university professor alone lost \$20,500.

Berger still feels that the '73-'74 recession was a chief culprit in Wagner's demise. Towards the end, he was frantically flying to New York and Chicago trying to find investors whose money could keep the ailing stores afloat. But the unfavorable economic climate helped make his search for more money fruitless. The company was legally dissolved in 1975 under involuntary bankruptcy proceedings.

After the Fall

The period following Wagner's bankruptcy was a dark one for Berger. During the ordeal, his marriage was beginning to come apart, and a divorce soon followed.

To say that Wagner's failure was a depressing defeat for Berger probably understates the case. "It's a very dark cloud over my head," he says. "I remember it well, and I'm unhappy about it, even until this day. It's an incredible failure in my life, no question about it."

I asked Berger if the failure shook his self confidence. He paused and sighed, looking thoughtfully at the \$1.50 Partigas cigar he was smoking. When he finally spoke, he was no longer speaking in his usual exuberant manner, but in a softer, almost sad tone of voice. "For eight months," he began, "I didn't do anything. It was strange, because I had been very active in the community. But when Wagner's went down the tubes, there were damn few people that would speak to me, that would even look at me. People would seem to cross over to the other side of the street to avoid me. It was a very strange feeling. I knew I was alone more than ever before in my life."

"I was distressed about it — very distressed. Because I really didn't think that people had looked at me in that light. I thought they looked at me as a person who was giving, who cared about Ann Arbor, who cared about the people here. I donated money to all kinds of organiza-

tions — even when I couldn't afford it. But people are strange, and these things happen."

Berger suffered more than ostracism after Wagner's went under. "For eight months," he told me, "I'll tell you very frankly, I couldn't even find a job. There were no lookers for me. I really had a very difficult time."

Berger thought of fleeing the city and establishing himself elsewhere, but he lacked the contacts in other cities to secure another position. Finally he was hired by a Detroit factoring firm which bought doctors' and dentists' bills at a discounted rate and then collected the full amount from the patients' health insurance companies. Berger now realizes that the enterprise lacked sufficient capital to work. "We got involved with some difficult physicians and dentists, and we had our problems, I must say," he told me. "We bought their bills and collected from Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Medicaid, and Medicare. After a while, Medicaid wouldn't allow factoring of receivables. Then Medicare wouldn't allow it. Then it turned out that Blue Cross and Blue Shield wouldn't for various reasons pay the entire bills we presented them, so then you'd have to go back to the doctors and demand that they pay the remaining part. When they wouldn't do it, you'd have to go to the patient and demand that he pay it. And by the time it was over, there wasn't a lot on the bottom line." The company ceased doing business a year ago.

Collecting medical bills was not a business on which Berger looks back fondly. But the three years he spent doing it was

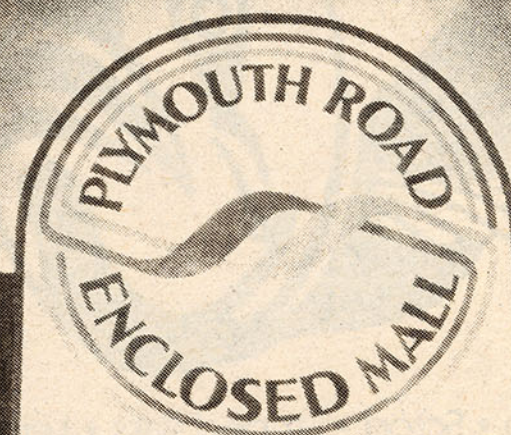
a time for him to gather together his resources and begin another venture. Some good investments in real estate supplied him with the working capital needed to get the Riverside Plaza project off the ground, he said.

"When Wagner's went down the tubes, there were damn few people that would speak to me, that would even look at me."

The role of developer/promoter of vast, ambitious projects is quite an agreeable one for Berger. "It takes a lot of imagination, a lot of creativity to put things together on a project like this," he told me, "and that's where I do my best job. When you're in a business like Riverside Plaza, you're generally alone: you do the marketing, you do the feasibility studies, you do the planning, you're involved in the financing, you're involved in the design. You're involved in all facets of it, and I find that very stimulating."

Surely, I asked Berger before he abandoned the project, you recognize that trying to build Riverside Plaza represents a considerable risk of your time and money? "I never go into anything without a lot of confidence," he replied. "Many ventures are very risky, and the risk business is not for the timid. That's why there are not many people around willing to take risks of this size."

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You admit then, that this is a risk, I asked?

"Yes, this is a risk. But I don't look at things like this as risks. I recognized that this would be a significant venture, but I also recognized that you can spend as much time with a small project as you do a major project. The end results are that if both of them go, you're farther ahead with a large project. It takes larger financing, but it makes no difference to me in financing a \$7 million deal or a \$60 million project. My feeling is that Riverside Plaza is the kind of project that requires a high amount of financing, but it's a valid one. Why not spend as much time on this project as you would on a small housing project?"

A Napoleonic Figure

One person I talked to in researching this article calls Berger a "Napoleonic figure." The more I learned about him, the more apt the term seems. Here is a man small in stature who likes to think big,



At home: Berger in his apartment over Black Elk Supply on E. Washington, where he lives alone. He describes himself as "a very private person. I keep to myself. I'm a loner to a great degree." His interests include classical music, French wines, boating, and travel.

who moves boldly and who seems ultimately undaunted by major defeats. I asked Berger if he was just as audacious as a child. He said he is the only one of his brothers and sisters who seems to have shown such inclinations.

The third of five children, Dick Berger was born and raised on Chicago's South

Side. He describes his father, who headed the Chicago office of a men's clothing manufacturer, as a "lovely, understated man." His father came from a Jewish family of twelve children. His mother came from an Italian family of eighteen. For eighteen years after the marriage, his father's side of the family would not rec-

ognize the union.

Berger describes himself as a "loner," but he has certainly been an energetic and personable loner. By 1947, when he was 13 years old, Berger was making the remarkable sum of \$125 a week as a delivery boy for a nearby supermarket. He wasn't getting rich on the hourly pay (ninety cents an hour) but on the tips, a product of the quantity and quality of service he gave customers. "The key was service," he says. "I'd deliver any time." It took a lot of deliveries for those tips to add up, and the picture one gets is of a 13-year-old boy rushing from one customer to the next — often on into the night — to accumulate his small fortune.

And what did Berger, perhaps the richest self-made 13-year-old in Chicago, do with his money? He used it to make the *grand gesture*. Too busy making money to have close friends, he would walk into the crowded soda fountain hangout of his peers and say to the soda jerk for all to hear, "These are all my friends, Give them all banana splits!" When Berger describes that scene, you can tell he still relishes the memory.

His money also went to favored girl friends, whom he would present with \$60 and \$75 compacts. From early on, Berger seems to have known exactly what he wanted to be: a big shot.

As Dick Berger moved on to high school, sports and other extracurricular activities took up more and more time, and there was little time left for making money. Still, he had opportunities to

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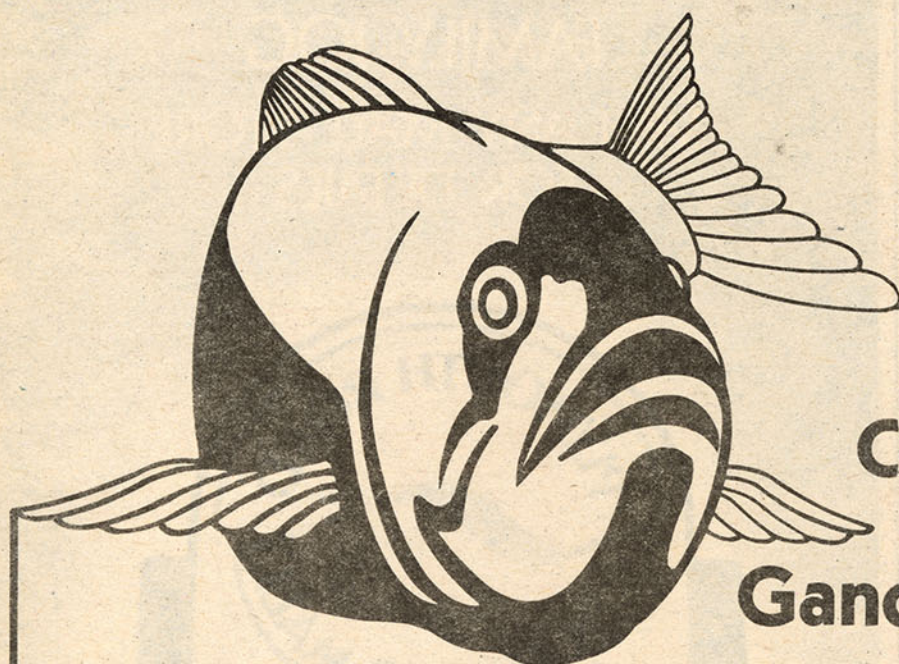
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"Wagner's was a failure. My marriage was a failure. These are big failures. . . . But you can't look back. You can't dwell in your sorrow."

plan on a big scale — such as the important high school dance he was named to organize. Berger, who was then 15, was determined that this — his dance — would be the best ever. "And I believe it was, frankly," he told me. "We spent more money on it than had ever been spent on a dance before." He got the money by convincing most of the teachers at the school to donate the extra amount needed.

One area Berger did not put much energy into was studying, and his grades showed it. He went off to college at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and his one-semester experience with higher education remains one of his most unpleasant memories. "You couldn't believe how I hated it," he says. "I couldn't stand the rah-rah, go-go environment. It was not my style. They were not serious-minded enough for me. They seemed to always want to play. Maybe in the end they had a better balance than I had. But I just couldn't stand it."

Berger went back that winter of 1951 to Chicago and worked in a factory until he joined the Marines at the height of the Korean War. His company landed in Korea just as the war ended, and he spent the next two years as a Marine drill instructor.

Discharged in 1954, he joined the Chi-

cago sales staff of a clothing manufacturer (not the same as his father's), and worked his way up through the ranks to head a sales force covering ten states. From that position, he went on to buy Wagner's.

Does Riverside Plaza represent Dick Berger's last big venture? Apparently not. Berger has two more large developments on the drawing board. He feels it is premature to discuss the details, but he did mention that one of them, to be announced in a month or two, is a large housing project in central Ann Arbor.

Berger seems to be one of those hardy individuals with the resilience to keep coming back after defeat. As he explains it, "Wagner's was a failure. My marriage was a failure. Those are big failures — those are not small failures. But you can't look back. You can't dwell in your sorrow."

"With Riverside Plaza, there have been some very bad days, and I have been very depressed. At times like that, I go off alone. I sulk alone — I don't bother anybody with it. And then the very next day, I'm raring to go again, because I have a new outlook. I know that what happened yesterday is not going to happen today. I'm always looking forward. I'm always excited. I'm always challenged. That's my style."

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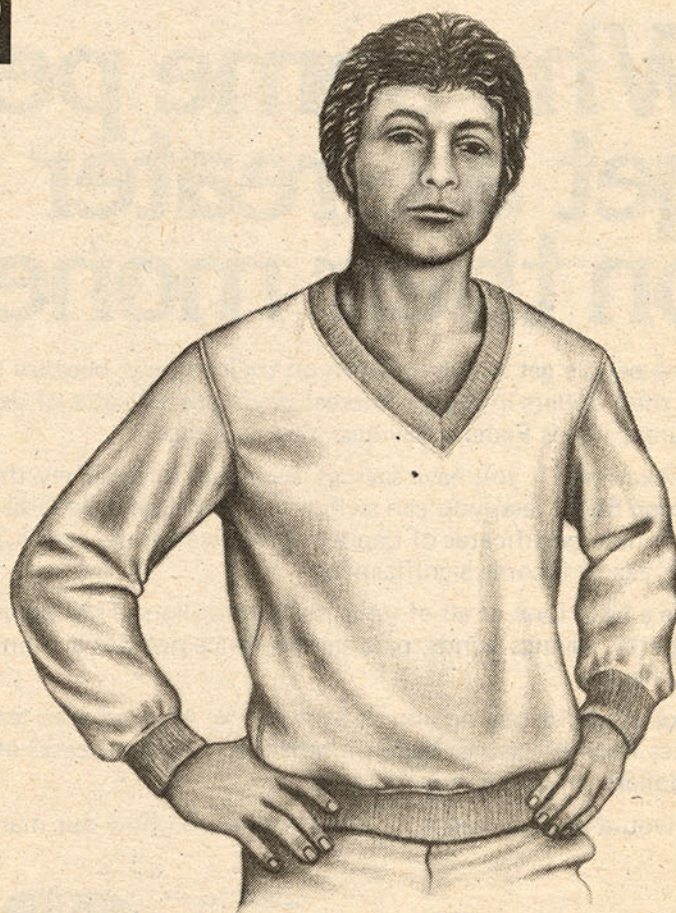
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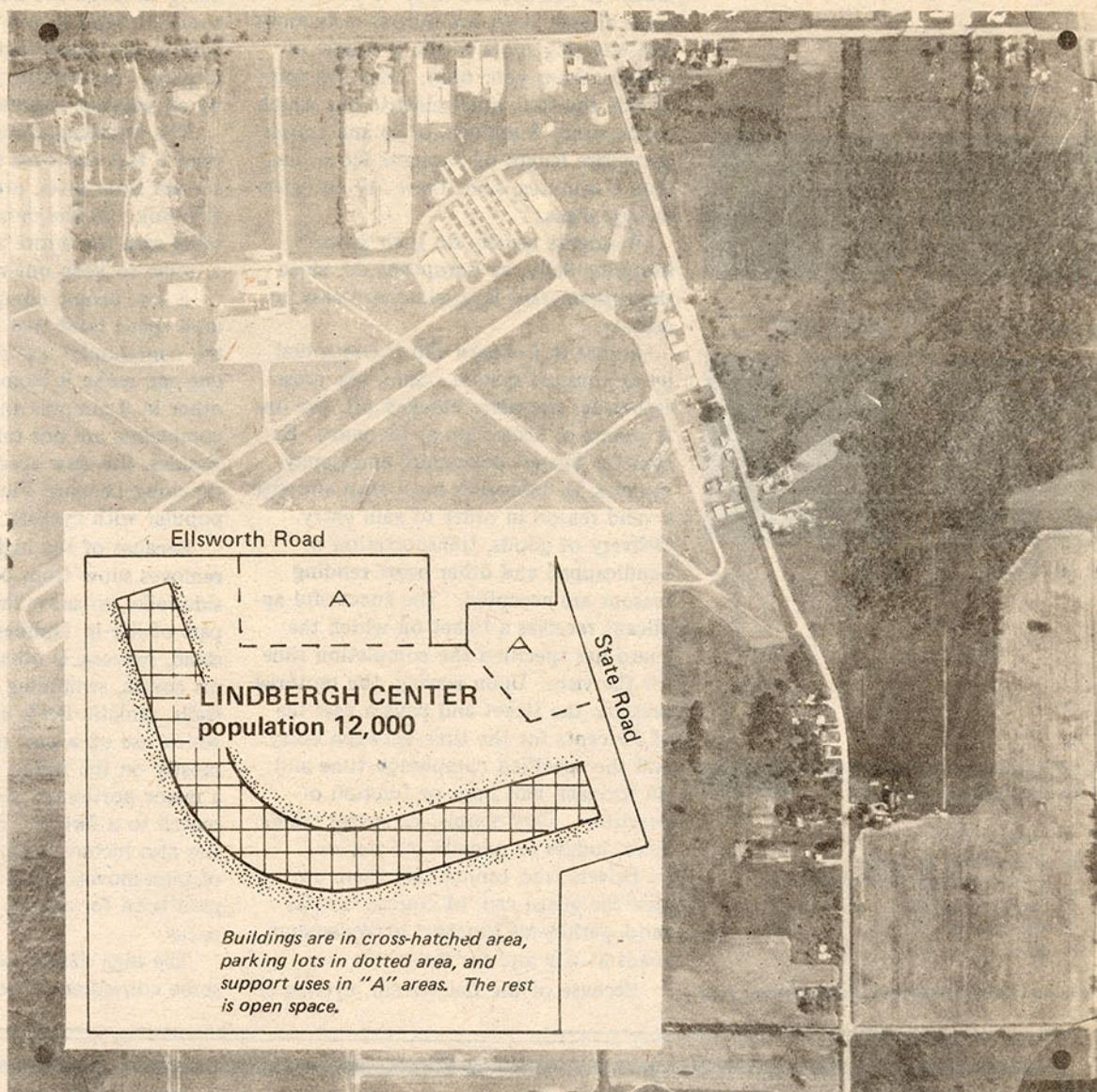
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After the Airport

Clan Crawford asks: why should the airport enrage its southside neighbors when its land could be used to ease pressure on development and turn a money-loser into a winner — in one visionary stroke?



Fifty-one years ago one Leonard Flo founded the Ann Arbor Municipal Airport 2½ miles south of town. It seemed like a good idea at the time. But today, with urban development encircling its turf, the airport has become a nuisance to thousands of our citizens.

Hopefully sooner (but probably later) our city council will shut it down, as other city councils have done with close-in urban airports in similar circumstances. When this happens we, the citizens of Ann Arbor, will have to determine the use of an enormous parcel of land, over a square mile in area (about 4% of the size of the city), strategically located adjacent to a freeway interchange and in close proximity to the extensive shopping facilities at Briarwood. It is very valuable real estate, worth millions, and it all belongs to us, the citizens of Ann Arbor!

What follows is a proposal to create a model contemporary city, an inspiring and enjoyable place to live and work, economical in the use of energy, materials and land—an urban development which would absorb most of the demand for additional multiple dwellings in this area for years to come and relieve the pressure on other neighborhoods for multiple development. The taxpayers who have so generously subsidized the airport all these long years would receive a return of millions of dollars to help provide the many things our city needs. In the tradition of Burnham, it is no little plan.

Let us pretend that this is 1999, and our new-town-at-the-edge-of-town has

now been fully constructed.

Lindbergh Center is a linear city with about 12,000 residents. The built-up area is about a mile and a quarter long and 650 feet wide—850 if you count the parking areas on the fringes. It is shaped like a boomerang and, as shown in Fig. 1, it occupies only about 20% of the former airport land. Another 11% is used as an urban support area, described hereafter. The rest of the property, around 69% of the total site, is devoted to open space uses.

The master plan

The key to achieving this combination of high density (two and a half times that of our city as a whole) and enormous open space is the use of multiple dwellings. There isn't one single-family detached home in the whole place. There are many townhouses with postage-stamp yards and lots of vest pocket parks, but the open space needs of most people are satisfied just outside the built-up area. Since nobody lives more than 350 feet from the edge of Lindbergh Center, access to open space is easily available to all. Furthermore, almost everyone has a view of the open space from his or her windows, because tall buildings are adequately separated by open spaces and one and two story buildings.

We the citizens of Ann Arbor don't have to worry about undesirable changes in land use in Lindbergh Center, or the construction of new buildings that will block views. We don't have to spend a

lot of money defending zoning suits. Change comes about only when we want it, because although the buildings have been constructed by developers with private capital, the city of Ann Arbor still owns the land. It is leased to the developers for terms of up to 70 years. Our city fathers and mothers were smart for a change, because each lease includes a detailed plan of the buildings to be constructed and the uses to which they are to be put. The lease allows changes only by permission of the landlord—us. Clever, weren't we?

Furthermore, we collected the rent for the entire term at the time each lease was signed. This is where we got the money to build the roads, sewer and water lines and other public improvements. During the final stages of development we were able to siphon off quite a bit of the rent money for other public uses around the city. We developers didn't rent out our valuable property for peanuts.

But that isn't all. When the leases expire we can rent the property all over again, and this time almost all of the income will be pure profit. Thus we have left to our heirs in seventy years a gold mine.

It's fun to live in Lindbergh Center

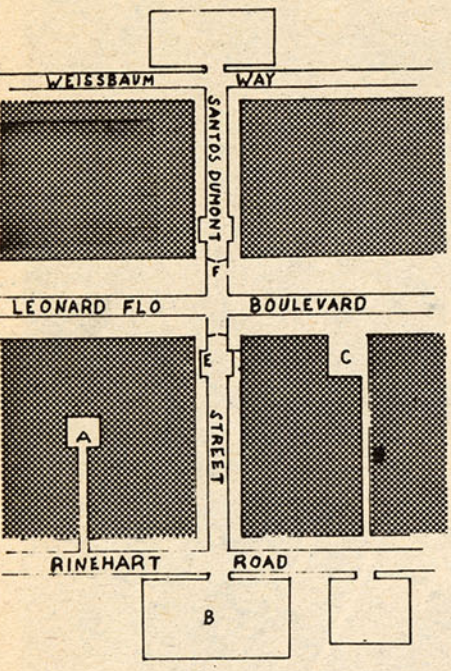
It's not fun for everyone, of course. Some people still value above all else a single-family home with a yard around it. But a lot of busy people find it just

By CLAN CRAWFORD, Jr.

Some Ann Arborites, among them local attorney Clan Crawford, Jr., fail to see the point of keeping Ann Arbor's Municipal Airport. The facility serves only a small fraction of the citizenry, yet taxpayers have paid hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to subsidize it. The planes which use the airport add to the city's noise pollution, and there is a bigger and better airport — Willow Run—just a few more minutes away.

In this article, Crawford, a zoning lawyer who has studied model communities around the world, suggests we turn the airport into Lindbergh Center, a city owned model development.

Figure 2



A TYPICAL NEIGHBORHOOD IN LINDBERGH CENTER

- A. Armstrong Alley
- B. Bleriot Parking Field
- C. Curtiss Commons Minipark
- D. DaVinci Walkway
- E. Turnaround
- F. Gate

dandy. You don't have to mow the lawn. If you are too busy or tired to cook dinner, there are several restaurants and watering spots within a couple of minutes from your door. You can walk or ride the free, quiet electric bus which comes every 3 minutes or so and travels the entire length of Leonard Flo in less than 7 minutes, since there are no lights or stop signs.

Residents usually do their grocery shopping daily, as Europeans do, since the supermarket is so close and easy to get to.

Access to Leonard Flo is controlled by an unusual system. Since the cross streets are normally blocked off, the only points of access are at the ends. Except for busses, police and emergency vehicles, all motorists must stop and give a valid reason in order to gain entry. Delivery of goods, transportation of handicapped and other heart rending reasons are accepted. The successful applicant receives a ticket on which the guard has specified the completion time for the visit. Upon leaving, the motorist presents the ticket and pays a user fee of 25 cents for the time between entry and the specified completion time and \$5 for each half hour or fraction of overtime. Very simple, no meter maids, fines, judges or uncollected tickets.

Drivers who cannot talk their way past the guard can, of course, use the most peripheral Rinehart or Weissbaum roads at will and for free.

Because of the flat terrain, cycling is very popular. A bike path was planned along Leonard Flo and there is plenty of room to build it, but cyclists feel so secure in the street that the area remains in grass. Jaywalking is safe and is done by all without apprehension.

The buildings along Leonard Flo extend 8 feet out over the sidewalk at the second floor level, providing a covered sidewalk. In the most densely populated area the entire street is covered by a dome to keep out rain and snow.

A few people complain about the 20 mph speed limit that prevails throughout the community, but since at this rate one can make it from one end to the other in 3 minutes and 45 seconds the complaints are not taken too seriously. Besides, the slow speed and sparse traffic along Leonard Flo have made it very popular with cyclists.

Because of the high density the city removes snow from both streets and sidewalks, so snow shovelling is not a part of life in Lindbergh Center. Instead, exercise is obtained at various tennis courts, swimming pools, jogging trails, athletic fields and a skating rink which use up a part of the unbuilt area, mostly on the inside of the curve, since a major portion of the outside area is rented to a farmer. Recreational facilities also include a bowling alley, a pair of mini-movies and a theater which is used both for movies and stage performances.

The high density also makes practical some conveniences not available else-

where in Ann Arbor, like a common delivery service, used by local merchants and United Parcel Service, which delivers until 9 pm. The whole town is heated by a very efficient steam plant which results in unusually low heating bills.

A closer look

Fig. 2 shows a typical neighborhood in Lindbergh Center. The main drag, Leonard Flo Boulevard, is used mainly by busses, police cars and delivery vehicles. Along the edge of the built-up area on the outside of the curve it is paralleled by Rinehart Road. On the inside edge there is a smaller parallel road, Weissbaum Way. Both of these serve to enable motorists to drive to free parking areas close to their homes. There are numerous cross streets like Santos Dumont, but they are normally blocked off at Leonard Flo by gates which are opened by police only when Leonard Flo is blocked by fire trucks or a parade. However, cars can use the cross streets to make deliveries to buildings which front on them.

Incidentally, the two diagrams convey an impression that is a bit inaccurate. Lindbergh Center, along its edges,

A taste of Europe returns to the Campus Inn

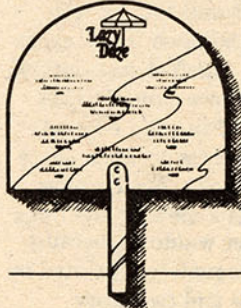


"Lazy Daze" once again brings the unmistakable flavor of the sidewalk cafe back to Ann Arbor.

Located on the sunny side of the Campus Inn, this year's edition of "Lazy Daze" will feature an all new menu of tantalizing snacks and delights.

Imagine a fragrant cantaloupe, filled with ice cream and festooned with strawberries. Or a mellow avocado stuffed with shrimp, adorned with asparagus, and bedizened with brandy sauce.

And, to quench that summer thirst, imagine a frosty pitcher of fruity Sangria. Or some exotic whatnot like a Blue Tail Fly, a Leatherneck, or a Planters Punch.

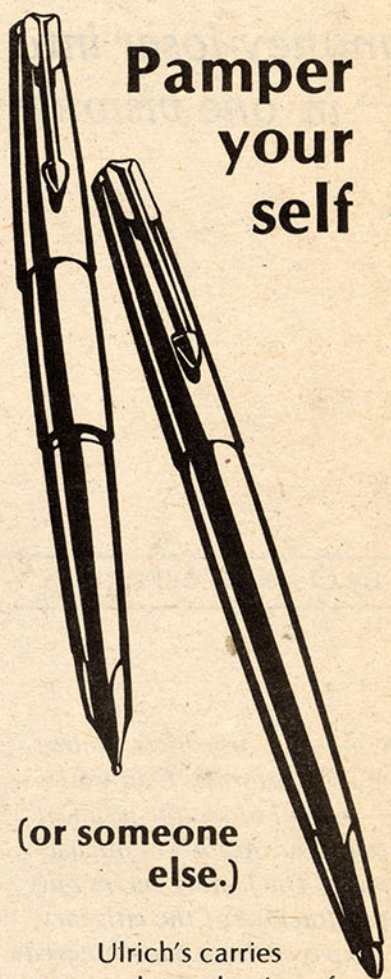


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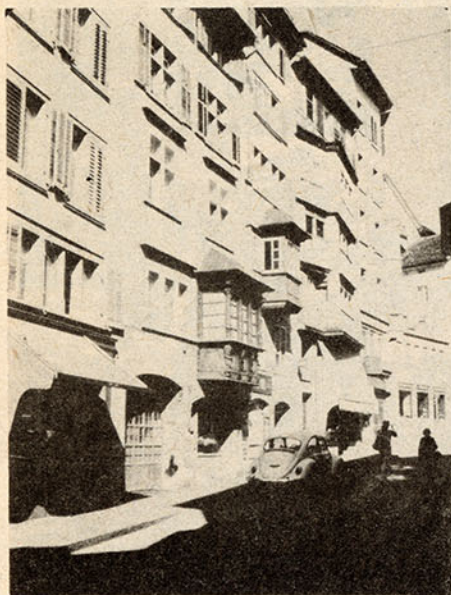
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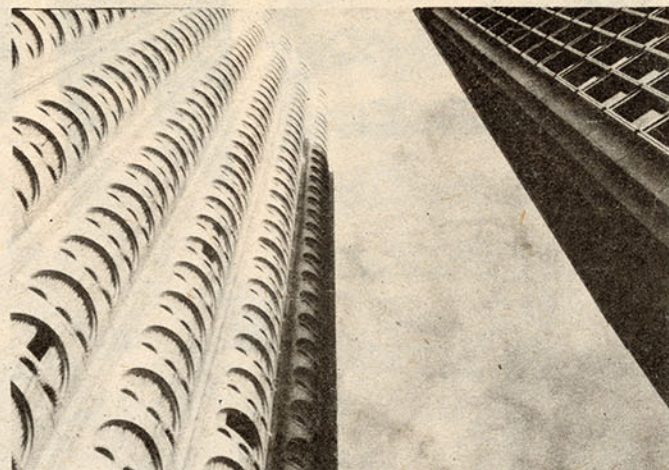
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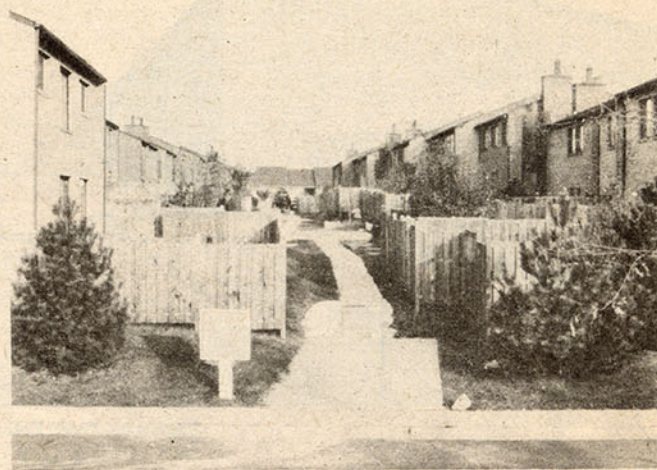
549 E. University



Occupants of German ancestry enjoy life in Zeppelinplatz.



Residents of the Wilbur and Orville Wright Towers have views galore.



Goddard Grove, in the "suburbs" of Lindbergh Center.

Some typical views in Lindbergh Center

is not a solid line of wall. Some buildings extend farther out than others. A few even bridge the perimeter roads, like the school which was built that way so the children can reach the playground without crossing the street. In a couple of places Rinehart veers toward Leonard Flo and there are very exclusive townhouses on the outside. These are the suburbs, Sikorsky Square and Goddard Grove.

The areas marked "A" on Fig. 1, which include the former hangars and other airport structures, serve as a sup-

port area, accommodating those uses needed to serve the community which, because of large space requirements, noise, odors or other characteristics, cannot be suitably fitted into the close-knit fabric of a high-density mixed residential and commercial environment. These include retail establishments which require large outdoor areas to display such goods as cars and boats, auto repair shops, kennels and veterinary clinics.

Like many other Ann Arborites, quite a few of Lindbergh Center's residents work in other communities. They

find the almost instant access to the freeway system very convenient.

Back to 1979

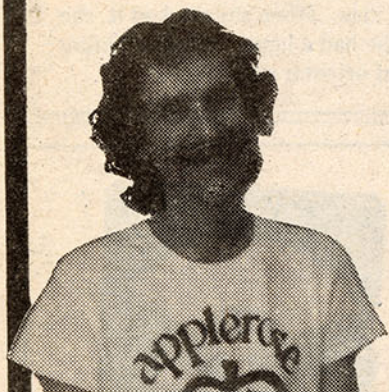
Lindbergh Center is not an impossible pipe dream. It requires no undeveloped technology. It has prototype ancestors around the world. The energy, material

and cost savings of carefully-structured high-density communities have been thoroughly documented. The traffic control system is somewhat similar to one now operating in Vail, Colorado.

We have the resources—the land is ours. Inevitably the airport must give way to higher and better use. All we have to do is make up our minds and do it to it.

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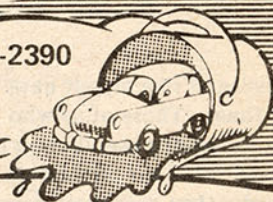
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Photos by Peter Yates

A study in contrasts: the institutional impersonality of the U-M surplus facility (above) and the other-worldly chaos of Stan's Wrecking in Ypsilanti Township.



Scavenging Around Ann Arbor

It's not like the good old days, when roaming the city dump was like a treasure hunt. But local scavengers still have two places to make real finds.

By ANNETTE CHURCHILL

Scavengers like myself have fallen on hard times. Those of us who like to discover something useful, even beautiful, in the detritus of our civilization have to work harder than ever these days to find neat stuff. Recycling is very in just now. We used to call it trash picking.

The passing of the open dump was a blow many scavengers never really recovered from.

Habituees of the dump tended to know one another and were very competitive. The best dumps were in upwardly mobile communities where the residents periodically had fits of throwing away marvelous stuff to make room for the latest thing. Trash pickers had wonderful stories about finding things like a Delft washbowl or an ornate cast iron bathtub six feet long. One of these was installed in a house I know where within a few hours it started a slow, crunching descent through the bathroom

floor to emerge through the ceiling of the dining room. There it hung for some weeks threatening the diners below while they decided what to do about the situation. Scavengers are not always sensible people.

When dumps became sanitary landfills, we were forced to patronize junk yards. Here we had to pay, but prices were low. In recent years, though, junk yards have all become specialists, and their concern for the safety of customers has led them to bar people like us. You can't get into

Lansky's just to nose around. They deal only at the wholesale level.

Wrapping stuff up in dark plastic bags further complicated things for us, as did the passing of the open garbage truck. You can't collect what you can't see. A woman I know once spotted an interesting design at the corner of a filthy tarpaulin thrown over a garbage truck. She acquired the tarp for \$2 from the puzzled garbage man. When she washed it, she found she had a large beautiful kilim—a type of oriental rug.

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Stan's vast and cluttered landscape takes on a power of its own, causing individual objects and even people to disappear.

With our primary sources ruined for us by public concern for sanitation, we have been driven to sophisticated dealers who prematurely elevated "neat old stuff" to the level of "collectibles." Prices have gone up, and scavengers are cheap by nature. But a very few sources still remain for us.

There is, for instance, University Property Disposition. In a large, modern warehouse at 3241 Baxter Road on North Campus between Huron Parkway and Green Road, at least four truckloads of discarded equipment move in and out every day. The stuff comes from University of Michigan campuses here, in Dearborn, and in Flint. This is the place to go for four-drawer filing cabinets, oscilloscopes, rolling stretchers from the hospital, test tubes and other chemistry lab equipment, typewriters, adding machines, and much more. From time to time the comfy furniture you see in the public rooms of places like the Michigan Union turns up. What there is at any one time depends on what renovations are in pro-

gress. I was attracted to a stack of real slate blackboards. The slabs, measuring a generous third inch thick and three-and-a-half by four-and-a-half feet, were unframed and cost \$25 apiece.

Scavengers looking for practical equipment should put University Property Disposal on their beat. An enormous amount of stuff moves in and out of there every day. Hours are from 12-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Telephone: 764-2470.

Stan's Wrecking at 3075 Holmes Road in Ypsilanti Township deals in the products of house wrecking. "I've wrecked half Ann Arbor," Stan says. He admits that alert dealers buy the choicest stuff from him before the wreckage of a house is hauled from its site. But there are still interesting things at Stan's, some of which have been lying around there for many years. While the large yard is roughly organized into categories, with windows and doors in one shed, scrap lumber in another, and plumbing fixtures out in the open, it still takes a while for



Stan's inside showroom: behind the plumbing department.

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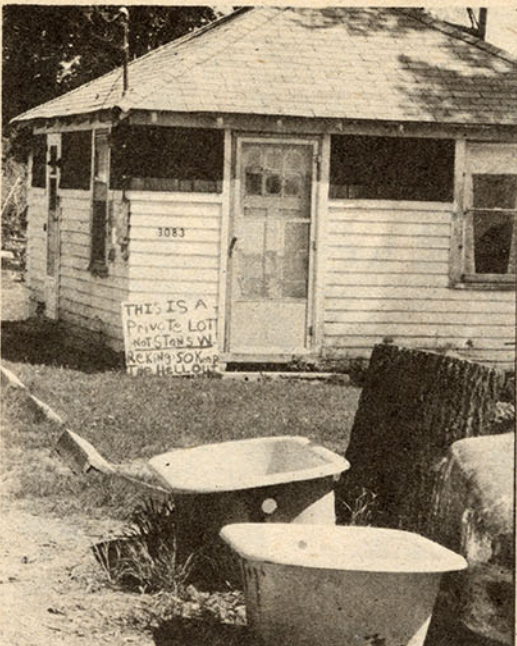
your eyes to begin to differentiate the thousands of items in this quintessential junkyard. It is a veritable Fellini landscape.

In one corner of Stan's stands a post from someone's front porch with the number 421 on it. From what street, and who lived there? Two hundred feet away eight or ten large refrigerators stand glistening in the sun like giant tombstones. Near them a flight of stairs has been propped up toward the sky, a stairway to nowhere. One forlorn bowling pin lies next to a cast iron sink that has lain on the ground so long that grass is growing in it. Over in the shed is a tiny iron child's bed and a sixty-year-old three-burner Garland gas range, both very rusty. And in the middle of the yard are dozens of toilets, with one bidet, and sinks in all kinds of shapes and sizes no longer available anywhere else.

Another area is full of equipment from long-dead restaurants that speaks of who

knows what broken dreams. A single gasoline pump stands looking already like an artifact, tomorrow's cigar store Indian. There are enormous piles of light industrial discards, all decidedly Lo Tech, a far cry from the gleaming Hi Tech industrial materials so popular in home furnishings today.

Small stuff like door knobs, fancy iron register grids, old thermostats, and lighting fixtures are housed in the partially burned-out shack, where you will also find Stan if he's not in sight outdoors. There are no neat price tags here; prices are established by bargaining. If you can't find what you want right away, keep looking. It takes a long time to exhaust all the possibilities for finding stuff in this place. Much of what is here is decidedly in the category of industrial non-chic. But perceptive trash pickers can do well at Stan's. Failing that, they can think about making a meaningful movie in this surreal setting. □



No fan of Stan's: this unhappy neighbor's property is surrounded by Stan's salvage and snooping customers.

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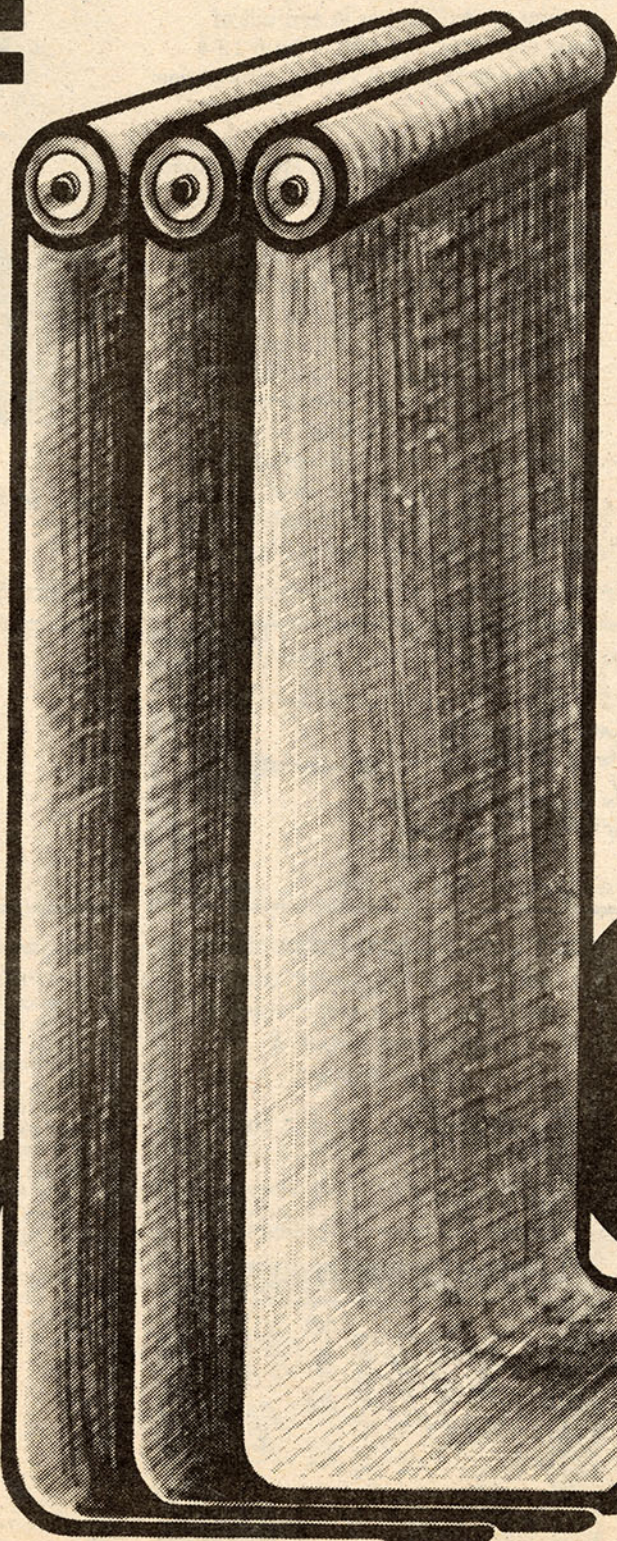
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Eater's Digest



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Year-Round

eggs
honey
jams and jellies

Seasonal List

JUNE

SPRING FESTIVAL SUNDAY

June 10 featuring flea market, antiques, food, entertainment, arts and crafts, 12-6
spinach
lettuce
onions
radishes
peas
asparagus
strawberries
early greens (mustard and Japanese)
apple cider
vegetable, bedding, and flower plants
cabbage

beets
carrots
cut flowers
crafts
shrubs
plants

JULY

All the June vegetables PLUS

eggplant
broccoli
green, wax, and lima beans
cauliflower
tomatoes
squash
potatoes
sweet corn
herbs
shrubs
mustard greens
raspberries
green peppers
gooseberries
blueberries
cut flowers

zucchini
cucumbers
peaches
cherries
musk melon
watermelon
radishes
onions
plants

AUGUST

Same as July PLUS

cucumber pickles
pears
plums
nectarines
apricots
turnips
brussel sprouts

SEPTEMBER

apples
apple cider
raspberries and blueberries
musk melon

watermelon
potatoes
cabbage
cucumber pickles
tomatoes
green peppers
carrots
squashes
dried flowers
sunflower seeds
bittersweet
harvest corn
baked goods
nursery stock
onions
cut flowers
figs
popcorn

HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 30 — Apple
Dunking to be featured event

What's Up



&

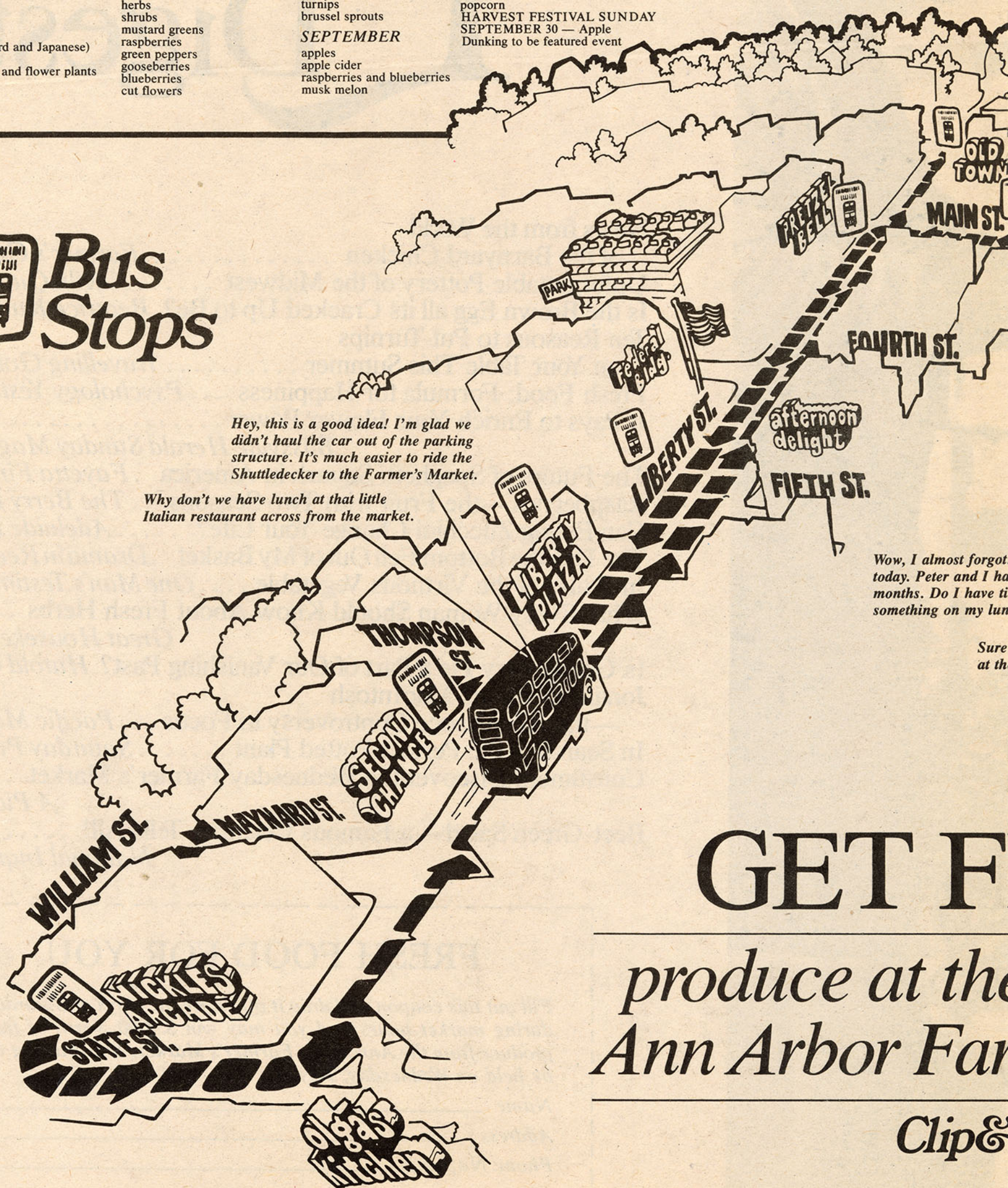
Bus Stops

Hey, this is a good idea! I'm glad we didn't haul the car out of the parking structure. It's much easier to ride the Shuttledecker to the Farmer's Market.

Why don't we have lunch at that little Italian restaurant across from the market.

Wow, I almost forgot today. Peter and I have months. Do I have time for something on my lunch?

Sure at the



GET F

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Clip&



Coming Up

OCTOBER

carrots
turnips
dried herbs
gourds
bittersweet
popcorn
dressed poultry
apple cider
apples
broccoli
cabbage
brussel sprouts
potatoes
onions
pumpkins
dried flowers
corn
corn shucks
black walnuts & chestnuts
popcorn

NOVEMBER

apples
cider
dressed poultry
potatoes
cabbage
onions
nuts
pumpkins
winter squash
dried Indian corn
sunflower seeds
carrots
turnips
bittersweet
dried grasses for flower
arrangements Christmas
wreaths and greens
nut wreaths
popcorn
baked goods

DECEMBER

Christmas greens and wreaths
nut wreaths
apples

apple cider
Christmas Trees
baked goods
nursery stock
dried herbs and flower
arrangements
dressed poultry
poinsettias
cabbage
potatoes
carrots
squash

JANUARY

apples
apple cider
potatoes
cabbage

FEBRUARY

same as January
crafts

MARCH

same as January and February
parsnips

APRIL

same as Jan., Feb., and Mar.
nursery stock
sassafras root
apple cider
apples
plants

MAY

asparagus
rhubarb
garden plants
cut flowers
vegetable plants
herb plants
crafts
baked goods
apples
spinach
radishes
onions
dandelion greens
shrubs
popcorn



The Ann Arbor Farmer's Market
315 Detroit Street

May through Christmas:
open Wednesdays and Saturdays,
7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

January through April:
open Saturdays only, 8 a.m.
to 3 p.m.

Market Information

- Over 130 Vendor Stalls
- Parking for the Handicapped
- Reserved Spaces for Loading Cars
- All Home Grown Produce
- Spring Festival, Sunday, June 10, 12-6
- Harvest Festival, Sunday, September 30, 12-6

It's our anniversary
we've been married two
years. I want to buy him
something for his birthday.

Get him a flowering crabapple tree
at the Farmer's Market.

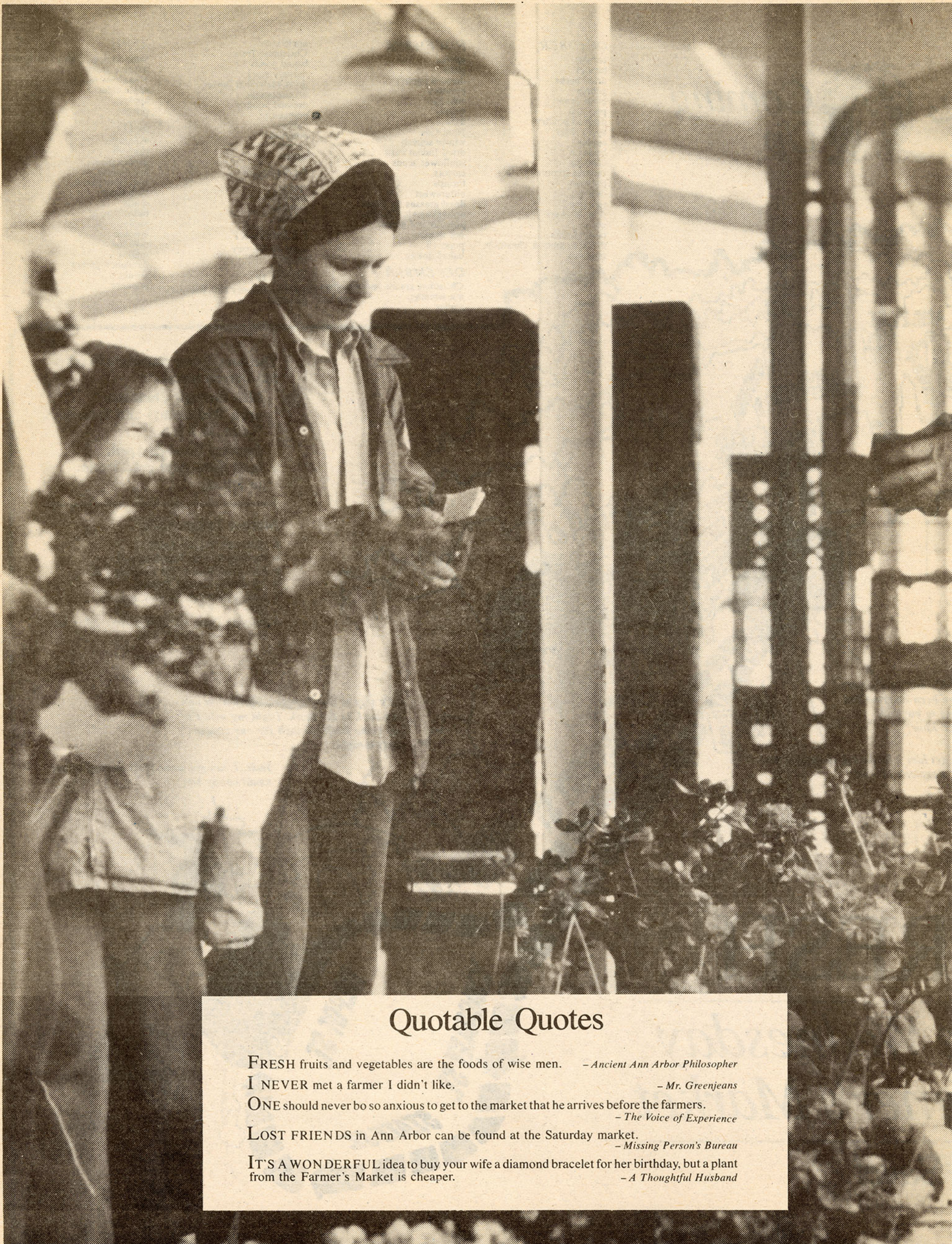
Let's stop at the Farmer's Market on our
way back to the bank. I told my wife I'd
buy some fresh spinach for our dinner
party tonight.

Yeah, I can get some fruit instead of my
usual candy bar.

FRESH

Wednesday Farmer's Market

Save!



Quotable Quotes

FRESH fruits and vegetables are the foods of wise men. — *Ancient Ann Arbor Philosopher*

I NEVER met a farmer I didn't like.

— *Mr. Greenjeans*

ONE should never be so anxious to get to the market that he arrives before the farmers.

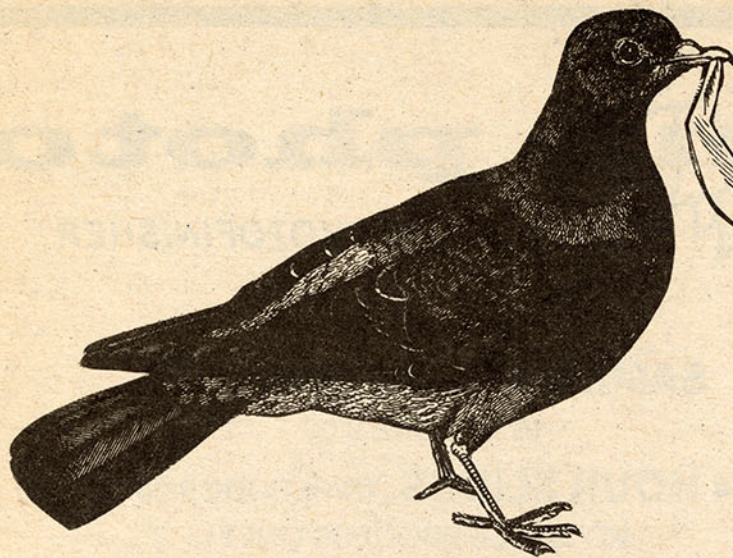
— *The Voice of Experience*

LOST FRIENDS in Ann Arbor can be found at the Saturday market.

— *Missing Person's Bureau*

IT'S A WONDERFUL idea to buy your wife a diamond bracelet for her birthday, but a plant from the Farmer's Market is cheaper.

— *A Thoughtful Husband*



Often they're
nuisances,

In Praise of Pigeons

but Ann Arbor's pigeons
are remarkable birds in many different ways.

By STEVEN COHEN

Bird-watchers disregard pigeons. Downtown business owners clean up after them and try in vain to discourage them. Most of us feed them once in a while and ignore them the rest of the time. But regardless of how we act toward them, pigeons are here to stay in urban America.

Most birds nest in trees and require worms and insects found in the ground as a major part of their diets. Pigeons are strictly grain eaters, however, and many of the world's 290 pigeon species don't nest in trees at all. Our typical street pigeon, the Rock Dove (*Columba Livia*), originally nested on rocky cliffs and outcrops where it could find flat shelves with natural protective overhangs.

A Eurasian bird, the Rock Dove was brought to North America by early settlers for use as food. Michigan also has a native pigeon, the mourning dove. Today it's doubtful that pigeons nest anywhere in Michigan other than on man-made structures. Barn-rafters, building ledges, church belfries, even I-beams supporting overpasses provide the flat, protected surfaces pigeons seek.

In metropolitan areas pigeons are hardy and prolific. It takes only two and a half weeks for their eggs to hatch and three weeks more for the young to fledge or leave the nest. Then the adults start raising the next clutch. They can keep producing young, two at a time, through most of the year because food (in the form of seed from weeds and grasses) is plentiful.

The dove's noble heritage

Despite the pigeon's humble place among bird-watchers today, its role in history and symbolism is ancient and noble. Because pigeons are monogamous and faithful to their mates throughout their lives, they were regarded in ancient times as the quintessence of love and were dedicated to Astarte, the Semitic goddess of sexual love and fertility. The behavior of young lovers is still today compared to the "billing and cooing of turtledoves."

In Christian symbolism the dove became the symbol of divine love and the holy spirit. The dove is also used to symbolize peace and peacemakers.

In recent times the pigeon has been the subject of various experiments. Learning psychologists continue to place pigeons in innumerable situations requir-

ing them to peck a key or a light for a food reward. This kind of work has shown how potent a properly-timed reward can be in reinforcing or changing behavior.

Ornithologists are learning from homing pigeons (a breed derived from the rock dove) that these birds can orient homewards by looking at the sun. When the sky is totally overcast, they home by sensing the earth's geomagnetic field.

Unfortunately the pigeon's contemporary reputation rests not on the sterling qualities of the *genus colomba* but on the nuisances street pigeons create in the immediate environment by their droppings. Besides being messy, these droppings can carry diseases, as do the droppings of many other common birds like chickens, ducks, sparrows, and starlings.

Coexisting with pigeons

Dealing with masses of pigeon droppings is one of the unexpected problems encountered by renovators of old buildings with broken windows where pigeons have gotten in. The owners of Rider's Hobby on W. Liberty estimated they removed a ton or two of pigeon guano when they cleaned up their second floor. Renovation of the Washtenaw County

Historical Society's Barton Dam Powerhouse into a museum was delayed for nearly a month last summer while a firm was found to remove a layer of droppings from the floor nearly a foot deep. It was a dangerous job, not just a messy one, because a respiratory infection called histoplasmosis can be contracted by inhaling the spores of fungi which grow on bird droppings. Workers wore gas masks while shoveling the droppings up. It took ten to fifteen people two or three days to complete the job, according to one of the architects. Then the building's surfaces were sterilized by chemical treatment.

There are ways of discouraging pigeons (trapping, installing wire netting on roosting sites, using repellents like the spray Bird-Off or a paste called Roost-No-More). Attempting to eradicate problem birds is neither appropriate nor practical. Reducing the number of birds in any one locality would be possible only for a short time, and the effects would disappear soon after the vigorous measures were relaxed.

It's better simply to discourage unwanted pigeons while learning to accept them as representatives of an extremely durable species, praiseworthy in its way and able to adapt to a harsh, hard-surfaced environment that most birds can't tolerate. □

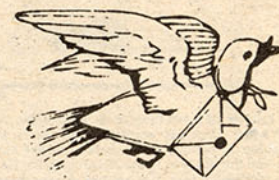
Pigeon symbolism



Faithfulness



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(a medieval jewelled dove)



Romantic love

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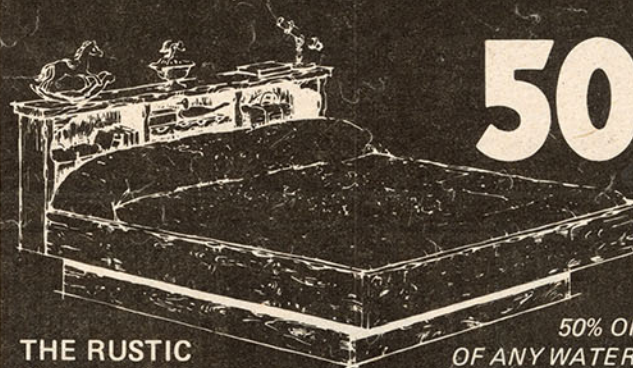
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After ten years, Jim Loudon is making ends meet doing just what he loves best.

MAKING IT as an Astronomy Popularizer

Happiness is when one's passion coincides with one's profession, and these days, Jim Loudon is a very happy man. Loudon's passion is astronomy, and he loves to lecture to general audiences about the same. For someone like Loudon who doesn't have an academic appointment or PhD, it is no easy matter to generate much paying demand for one's lecturing services. But after ten years of making only just enough to live on, Loudon seems finally to have arrived. In the past two months, he has made eighteen lectures at universities across the country. At \$250 a lecture plus expenses, Loudon is finally able to move beyond the very frugal existence his low income has required in the past.

Over the years Loudon has barely been able to make ends meet by working as a demonstrator at the planetarium of the U-M Exhibit Museum, by teaching a class or two at the Residential College, by giving sporadic lectures on request, and by occasionally reporting for National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" on recent developments in astronomy. His mainstay through this difficult period has been the popular Astronomical Film Festival, a monthly Loudon lecture (sometimes with films, sometimes not) to astronomy freaks in the Ann Arbor and the southeast Michigan area. He's been doing this for ten years.

Loudon is back in town after several months' stay in California, where he was on hand with the scientists receiving signals from the Pioneer Venus space probe about Venus's strange atmosphere. He also stayed for the Voyager 1 Jupiter encounter in March.

The rotund 35-year-old bachelor had driven his yellow VW Rabbit out to California late last fall to witness all this. For reasons of economy, his Rabbit is also his home on the road. By tilting the front seat forward he's able to sleep comfortably in back.

Loudon stopped by the Observer offices recently and chatted about his trip. As usual, he was full of news about new astronomical findings, all of which he related with great enthusiasm.

"On the way out to California," he began, "I had a number of fascinating ex-

periences. I drove out slowly — took a month at it — and visited space centers on the way. I visited the space ship Enterprise (part of the space shuttle) in Huntsville, Alabama. Later on I saw the space ship Columbia, which is the first that will fly into space.

"I stopped off at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, and at one point I had the remarkable experience of sitting in the commander's seat at the controls of the space shuttle simulator while one of the astronauts sitting in the next seat explained the controls to me.

"You can do these things once you're a reporter. The heaven's open to you once you're in that role. You simply phone and say, 'I'm a reporter with National Public Radio' or whatever, and all sorts of doors open for you.

"For example, I had the really incredible thrill of stopping in New Mexico and meeting for over an hour with Dr. Clyde Tombaugh, who discovered Pluto back in 1930. He gave me a tremendous recollection of what it was like to discover a planet. He is of course the world's only living discoverer of a planet. But more than that, of the three planets which have been actually discovered in our solar system — Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto — Tombaugh was the only discoverer who had the thrill of knowing what he discovered at the moment he saw it.

"As for what happened in California — well, in a nutshell, I was just there for all the events, and it was just staggering. I was there when the Pioneer Venus probes hit the atmosphere of Venus. I don't know why, but I was actually more excited then than I was even for the first Viking landing on Mars.

"Of all the planetary missions that have ever been flown by the Americans or the Russians, Pioneer Venus was the one with the greatest number of experiments — 34 in all. Therefore the mission had the greatest number of scientists — 117. By the way, the leader of all the Pioneer Venus scientists is Dr. Thomas Donahue, who is Chairman of the Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Department at the U-M.

"Pioneer Venus came up with some completely unexpected findings. For ex-



Loudon's home away from home: his VW Rabbit. Without a regular salary, he has had to pinch pennies while on astronomical expeditions such as his recent trip to California to cover the Voyager and Pioneer space probes. One way to save money is to live out of his car, which he did for 2½ months this winter. Above we see him in his mobile office doing some calculations. Below we see him in his bedroom, about to take a nap.

ample, that there is lightning on the planet. But the biggest discovery to date by Pioneer Venus is a very surprising one, namely that there are much larger amounts of *primordial* gases left over in Venus's atmosphere than on Earth or Mars. These are the gases that were present in the cloud of gas and dust that the Solar System was formed out of 4.6 million years ago. The relatively large amount of these primordial gases on Venus causes us to rethink the theories of the origin of the Solar System and the early history of the planets."

Loudon was also on hand with all the scientists when Voyager 1 sent back pictures of Jupiter's moons — the first close-up shots of these small bodies. He told us, "I had the *incredible* experience in March of being one of the first few hundred people in history to behold the face of a new world *five times in a week* — the moons of Jupiter."

It was Loudon's good fortune while in California covering these space missions to become the reporter not only for NPR but CBC — the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. "CBC Radio pays as much as \$125 for a five-minute report, and that is *very, very nice*. I finally got enough money that I could afford the luxury of cheap motels instead of campgrounds. So after spending two and a half months in a state park and getting thoroughly sick of rain — winter is their rainy season out there — I was finally able to move into a Motel 6."

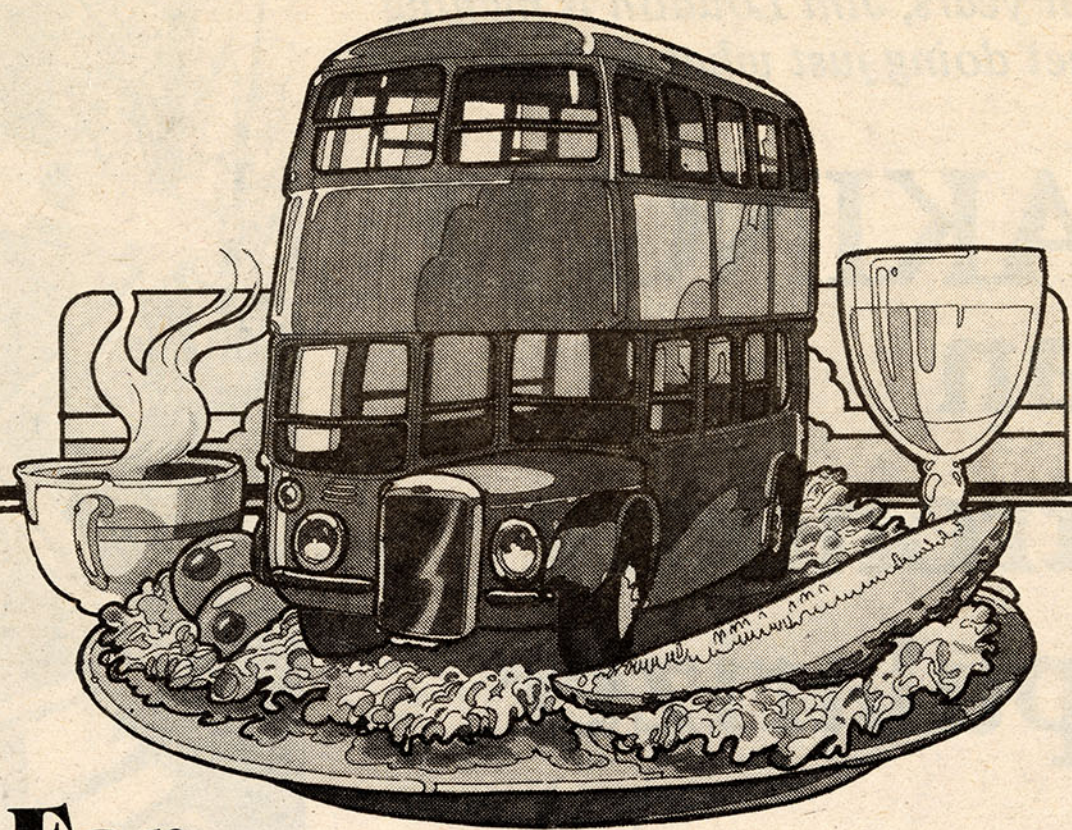
And more good news: an article on Pioneer Venus by Loudon was published in February's *Sky and Telescope*, a particularly exciting accomplishment for him. "When I saw my article printed, it just blew my mind because I grew up on that magazine. I still have *every issue* from January, 1956 on. It's literally the first magazine I ever subscribed to in my life."

But more than anything else, Loudon is delighted to find that he is enough in demand as an astronomy lecturer to be able to make a decent living at it. "It just *astonishes* me that I could make a living doing what I enjoy. It seems almost *obscene*. It feels almost like being paid for *breathing*."

I'll finish dressing at FANTASY FASHIONS!



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For lunchtime try our Double Decker

The Shuttledecker has added a special lunchtime route to accommodate those would-be vagabonds who aspire to crosstown odysseys to the Wednesday Farmer's Market, the Gandy Dancer, and other exotic places.

The ideal lunch hour includes time for a trip to the market, a detour to the cleaners, and a stop at one of Ann Arbor's many delectable restaurants. However, if you are like most people who work in downtown Ann Arbor you skip the errand that would free your evening hours and settle for a brown-bag or the inevitable fare in the restaurant around the corner from your office. It simply takes too much time

to walk across town; and dragging your car out of the parking structure to fight city traffic and hunt parking spots for an hour can only result in aggravation and possible starvation.

Now for **three hours every weekday, from 11 to 2, you can hop on the Shuttledecker for 10¢** and journey from State and William, down Liberty Street, through the central downtown area, and on to the northeast side of town, including the Farmer's Market area, the Treasure Mart, and as far as the Amtrak station on Depot Street. There are 13 scheduled stops that several shuttledeckers will be servicing continuously every 15 minutes during this three-hour period. You can buy an antique, pick up fresh spinach for your dinner salad, dine on Creole, Italian, Chinese, Greek, German, French, or Gourmet Natural foods and still have time to retrieve your sandals from the shoe repair.

Tomorrow discover some of the finest shopping and dining in town. Menus from a variety of restaurants will be available on the bus. See the June issue of the Ann Arbor Observer for a copy of the "clip and save" map of the Shuttledecker's route and scheduled stops.

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GANDY DANCER/Depot St.

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German/American restaurant
Red & white Reuben sandwich

MAUDE'S/S. Fourth Ave.

Turn-of-the-century cuisine
"Hortense the Lady Gardener" salad

OLD GERMAN/W. Washington St.

Bavarian tavern
Knackwurst, sauerkraut, spatzel

OLD TOWN/W. Liberty St.

Ann Arbor watering hole
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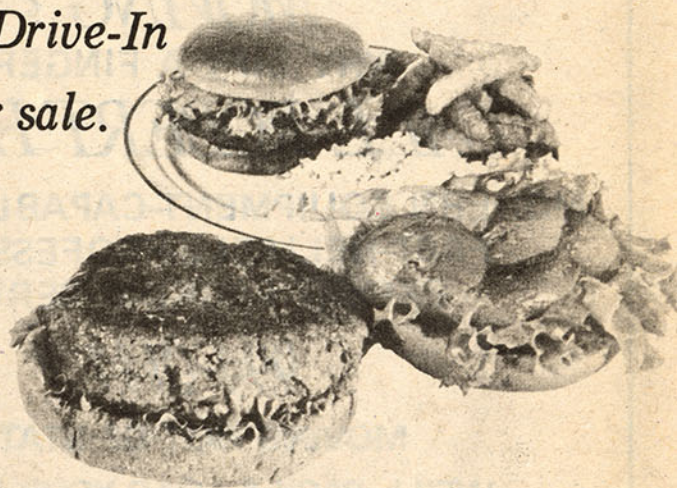
French flair cuisine
Quiches, omelettes, pastries, espresso

WHIFFLETREE/W. Huron St.

Fresh seafood saloon
Daily catch, seafood salads, soups

Good-by to Everett's

*Once a popular hangout
for Ann Arbor teenagers,
Everett's Drive-In
is now for sale.*



The Nu-Mo burger: Williams' own invention, a plump patty with seasonings and flavorings inside.



"The sign says it all," according to drive-in owner Everett Williams, who sketched the design for Michigan Neon in 1960.

If "American Graffiti" had been filmed in Ann Arbor, Everett's Drive-In would have been the chief locale for that nostalgic view of the early 1960's high school cruising scene.

Ann Arbor's Stadium Boulevard cruising circuit started at McDonald's, went to Everett's a half mile up the strip, across the street to the A & W and back to McDonald's.

"Everyone cruised, more or less," a 1964 graduate of Ann Arbor High told us. "This is a wealthy town, and a lot of high school kids had jobs, too, so there were a lot of new cars to show off: chop-tops and later muscle cars—all fast, with the front or back ends jacked up, depending on the current custom."

Cruising declined in the later 1960's, especially in places like Ann Arbor, where the counter-culture quickly eroded conspicuous displays of materialism like expensive cars among younger people. At the same time, the big burger chains with their cheap assembly-line operation were squeezing out all but the most popular independent hamburger joints.

By MARY HUNT

Everett Williams, owner of Everett's Drive-In, likes to refer to himself as "the last of the independents"—and he has certainly survived a long time under ad-

verse circumstances. But now Everett's Drive-In is for sale—the business, the half-acre parcel of land, the 50-seat restaurant, and the vintage neon sign with the illuminated California Deluxburger. Unless some preservation-minded young restaurateur acquires the property, the end is probably near for this lingering remnant of an earlier era of American fast-food culture. For the time being, however, Everett's is still a period piece, its exterior virtually unchanged from the days before the chains took over and made each town's commercial strip look like every other town's.

Today Everett's is frequented not by teenagers but by tradesmen, a big and burly crew of phone and gas company workmen, contractors, plumbers, builders and the like who gather inside to chat. Workmen have always been a big part of Everett's clientele—until a few months ago the restaurant was open 24 hours a day to accommodate workers on early and late shifts. Now they dominate the place. Some customers are the same ones owner Williams kicked out fifteen and twenty years ago for drinking beer at the rear of the parking lot, and some owe their marriages to courtships conducted largely at Everett's.

Williams, 55, is a convivial and unassuming man, soft-spoken but talkative, with the patience to put up good-

naturedly with crowds of teenage kids and the stamina to work long hours, often twelve and fourteen hours a day until recently.

He has been involved with food and cooking ever since he was a Navy cook during World War Two. He later served a two-year apprenticeship in a big Cleveland hotel, specializing in garnishing buffet spreads, then worked summers as head passenger cook for visiting VIP's on a line of Great Lakes freighters, and winters as cook for Sigma Alpha Mu in Ann Arbor.

In the late 1940's he opened Ann Arbor's first drive-in, the Milk Maid on Washtenaw, where the Flaming Pit is now. Twenty-two years ago he sold the Milk Maid and bought a piece of farmland on the newly-developed Stadium Cut-off, where he built Everett's Drive-In.

American hamburger history

During his career Williams has witnessed big changes in the evolution and merchandising of the American hamburger. Keeping up with changes is the name of the game, in his opinion.

"You take a hamburger," Williams says. "Back in the depression days the

first thing the average person did was add a slice of raw onion. Then we got fancy with melted cheese, a little fancier with the "hamburger delux." "Delux" originally meant lettuce, tomato, and mayonnaise. Later ketchup, mustard, and pickle relish were added to the delux to make the California delux burger.

"It set that way quite a few years 'til Bob Wyatt out in California came up with the Big Boy: two hamburger patties on a triple-deck sesame seed bun, with everything—ketchup, mustard, mayo, relish—combined into one sauce with chopped lettuce on top."

Williams copied the California delux burger and then tried to get the Big Boy franchise when Big Boy was just getting started in Michigan. He failed to get the franchise, but his drive-in business thrived until the late 1960's. "Marijuana ruined the drive-in business," Williams maintains. "The habit was so expensive, kids didn't drive nice cars and cruise any more."

In 1969 Williams expanded his inside dining room to make up for the loss of the high school drive-in business and came up with a new creation, the Nu-Mo burger. ("New" because It's New!—"Mo" because It's More than Ordinary!" according to the promotional literature.

"I did a lot of deep thought on that sandwich," Williams recalls. "I decided to put the flavorings and extra ingredients

inside the meat patty, to insure uniformity. Mushrooms were becoming very popular, so I put in mushroom slices. Celery, onion, tomato juice, and flavored bread crumbs, all held together with an egg binder, grilled to order and served on a rye bun.

"I was gonna franchise the Nu-Mo burger. I myself couldn't get out and hustle it, but the guy who sold speaker units to drive-ins all across the U. S. was gonna sell it with me. None of the chains really had anything new to offer—that's why I had a chance with my innovation. All it takes is money and backers." But the Nu-Mo never attracted sufficient capital, and the franchise plans never materialized.

Everett's is still a busy place, and Wil-

liams thinks he could have continued to hold his won against the corporately-owned chains that surround him if it weren't for a succession of health problems in recent years.

"I always worked long, hard hours on my legs," he told us. "And I developed a diabetic condition in my legs one and a half years ago. I missed a day of work for the first time in twenty-five years when I went into the hospital. Then a toe goes bad on me—the doctor said I just worked too many hours on my legs. I used to work the night shift and run the business during the day."

A co-manager would ease the burden of running the restaurant, Williams figured, and a new menu and new image would put the business on a solid footing.

So he hired a manager and planned a major overhaul. "I was going to redo the dining room, scrap canned foods and go to a cafeteria with fresh and frozen vegetables, prepare everything myself. Then lo and behold, the very day the new manager begins, I go and break my hip. The new man would have had to work too hard without me. So I'm selling out." □

The competition down Stadium: in 1961 McDonald's had not yet become the super-systematized giant it is today.



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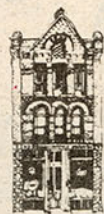
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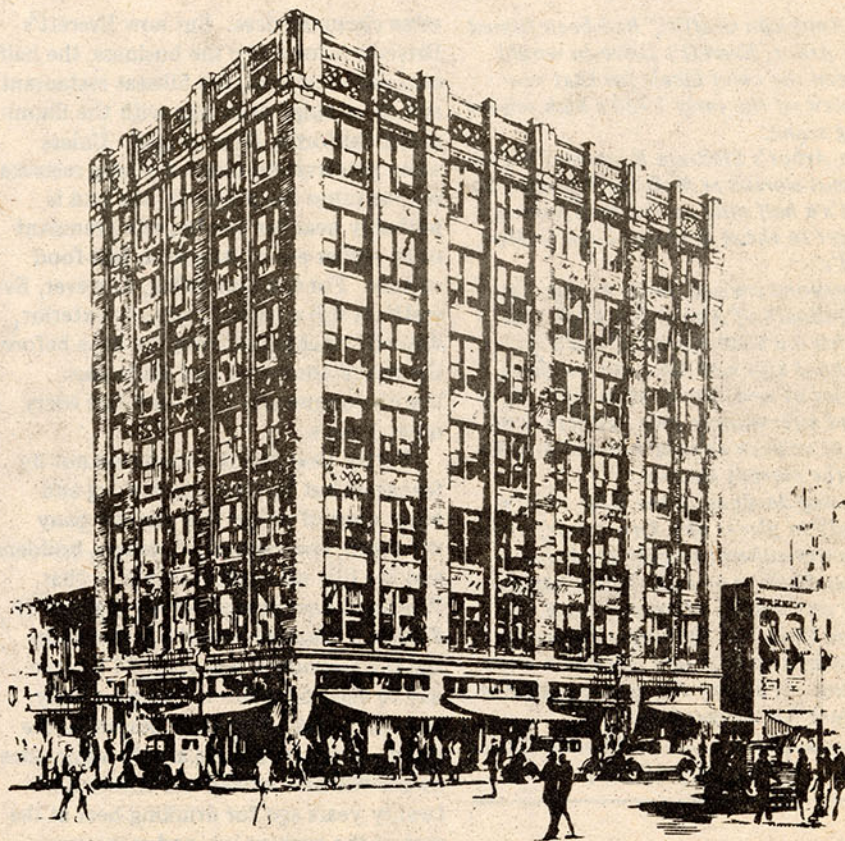
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WASHINGTON SQUARE



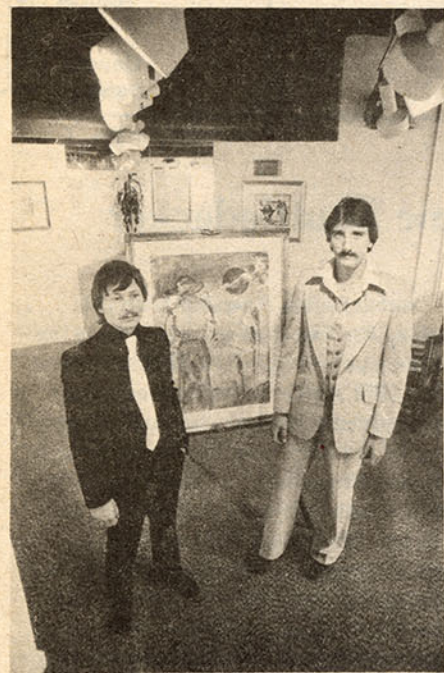
Washington Square (the former Wolverine Building), Washington Street at Fourth Avenue, is undergoing extensive historical renovations. Offices and shops with historical accents will be available soon. For an appointment call Peter Allen, 995-5221.

CHANGES

New gallery features Peter Max prints

The Valentine Gallery has opened in the rear of East Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Fifth Avenue, with a summer-long showing of Peter Max. You may remember Peter Max from the late 1960's. He was the inventive painter and energetic promoter responsible for applying his colorful designs to hundreds of items from sheets and shower curtains to clocks, plates, and tennis shoes. His wildly successful posters of bell-bottomed characters striding through space in starry cosmic settings were the visual essence of Beatle-age pop culture.

Native Ann Arborite Thom Keller, one of the new gallery's owners, is a close friend and agent of Max, and he says the Valentine Gallery will be the only gallery



Peter Yates

Thom Keller (left) and Eric Rhee with a Peter Max painting for which the asking price is \$15,000.

in the U. S. where Max "originals" (lithographs and other prints, some enriched with painted overlays) will be continually on display, in rotating three-month shows. Other artists will be represented, too.

Keller and co-owner Eric Rhee stress both the investment value and the aesthetic and spiritual aspects of Max's newer works, which encompass a variety of styles, some quite reminiscent of Matisse and Dufy. They are not at all like the comic book-like outlined areas of flat color Max used in the 1960's.

"His style could change from day to day," Keller said. "I sincerely think Max will be the next Picasso of the United States and the world," he prophesized. Peter Max prints that originally sold for \$80 now sell for \$500, according to Keller, who will guarantee "a certain percentage of return on works we sell if people want to resell them."

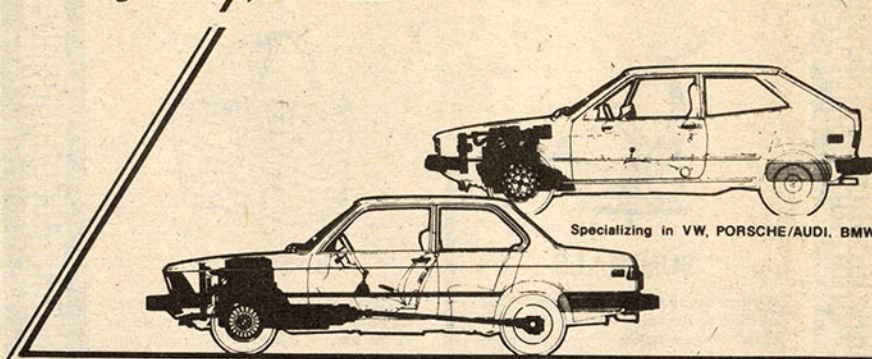
Keller and Rhee say their own collections of Max's work have appreciated in value enormously. Prints currently on display range from \$300 to \$5000 in price.

But Max's awareness of the investment and merchandising potential of his art represents only one side of the 41-year-old artist's character, from what Keller told us. Though the term "decorative" can fairly be applied to his work, and though Max avoids complex and potentially depressing themes, "Peter sincerely believes he can change the world through his art," Keller said. "Everything he does should make you feel good. His themes are love, freedom, happiness. Peter is not a political, rather a religious type of person. I don't think I know three folks in the world with his love for everybody."

All in all, Keller and Rhee consider Max's work a double-edged investment, good for the soul and the pocketbook, too. They'll display and promote it accordingly.

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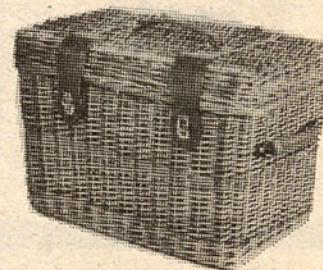
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A bike parking garage downtown

A bicycle parking facility in the old firehouse at Huron and Fifth will soon provide security and shelter for downtown workers' and shoppers' bikes. City Council approved the city Bicycle Coordinating Committee's plans to use the firehouse until the Hands-On Museum moves in, which wouldn't be for a couple of years. Senior citizens will staff the facility as part of a CETA-funded program, and user parking fees (about 50¢ a day) will fund the bike parking garage. It will also be a central-area cycling information center.

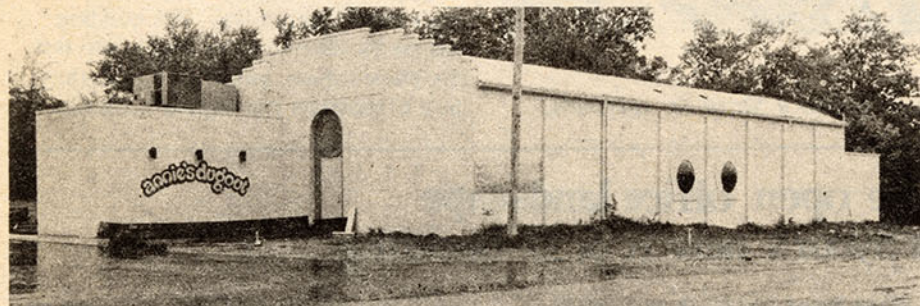


An old-fashioned saloon on South U.

The Count of Antipasto, the salad-sandwich-Italian specialties restaurant that opened last March in its custom-designed new building at South University and Church, will soon occupy the now-empty first floor. Known as Good Time Charlie's (after the saloon-keeper in Damon Runyon's short stories), the new 150-seat restaurant will be more student oriented than the Count of Antipasto, according to Dave Mickelsen, co-owner and spokesman for the other owners, who are largely the same as the backers of Second Chance. Headquarters of their college-town restaurant organization is Champaign-Urbana, Illinois.

"Good-Time Charlie's will be more an old-fashioned pub than a restaurant, with a more limited menu and more cocktailish hors d'oeuvres," Mickelsen said. Projected opening date: August 20, just in time for the fall semester. □

Annie's Dugout for softball crowds



Annie's Dugout: soon to become "an oasis in the desert" on Dexter Ave.

Annie's Dugout at 2324 Dexter Road is a newly-opened restaurant-bar catering to the crowds of baseball softball teams who play across the street at Vets Park on its five diamonds. Architect Bill Hobbs and four of the Conlin brothers, Bob, Jack, Dick, and Jim, are behind the venture, which has effected a dramatic transformation of the cement-block building that used to house Ozzie's Used Furniture.

We wondered how the new owners could hope to attract post-game celebrants without beer, assuming that the new business could not possibly obtain an Ann Arbor liquor license, what with the years-long waiting list for licenses. It turns out that the building isn't in the city of Ann Arbor at all, but in a township island of Ann Arbor Township, so

Annie's was able to get one of the township's regularly allocated licenses based on on population growth.

The restaurant will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. The menu features grilled sandwiches, chili, steak, and fish, but food won't be available until the kitchen equipment is installed — within a month, manager Loretta Kreske hopes. Prices are moderate (\$3.75 for a pitcher of beer.)

The decor is contemporary, comfortable, and predictably informal, with lots of booths. There's also a large-screen TV and a pinball room. The non-yet-installed landscaping will make the place appear "as an oasis in the desert," architect Hobbs told us, and the large parking area may be used for outdoor activities such as a beer tent and open-air hamburger grill. □

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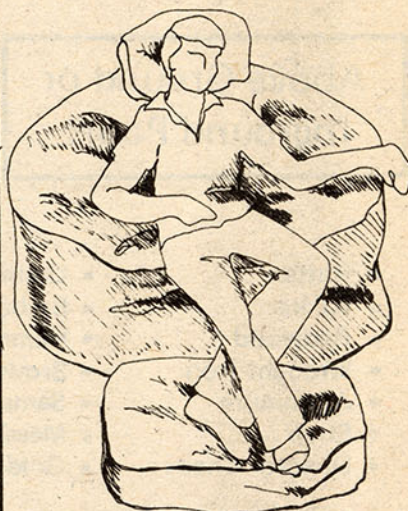
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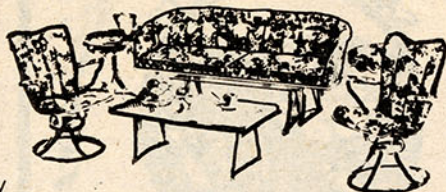
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CHANGES/continued

State St. sidewalks to be torn up

State Street sidewalks will be torn up, repaired and replaced this summer, and area property owners are footing the \$200,000 bill.

State Street merchants had become concerned about the negative impact that broken and crumbling sidewalks have on shoppers. They approached the city and Preservation Urban Design, a local architectural and planning firm, about improving the sidewalk conditions on State, Liberty, North University and

several other streets.

The merchants may have gotten more than they originally bargained for. Much of the sidewalk in the area is what is known as "vaulted sidewalk," walkway that has open space underneath it. The open space is the extension of the basements of the adjoining buildings, and was originally designed primarily for coal storage. Most of the vaults are at least 40 years old.

An inspection of area vaults revealed that many of them are in serious need of repair and present potential safety hazards, including possible collapse. A number of them have been shored up with extra supports. Repairing these vaulted walks requires rebuilding the entire sidewalk support structure or filling in the vaults, either of which is far more expensive than simply pouring a new slab of concrete.

The vaults actually extend into the city's street right-of-way. The building owners are allowed to encroach into this city-owned space, but in exchange, they have to maintain the vaulted sidewalks.



vault below a State St. sidewalk.

The open office landscape at Sycor's new R & D building

When Sycor commissioned Colvin-Robinson Associates to design its new research and development building, project designer Rick Herrmann came up with a smooth, hard-edged design to reflect Sycor's high-technology products (computer hardware, mainly terminals) and express a kind of computer-age functional elegance.

The exterior of the building on Research Drive off Ellsworth Road is sheathed in an energy-efficient reflective metallic skin to cut down cooling costs. (Summer cooling is, surprisingly, more expensive than winter heating in Ann Arbor.) The machined, rather austere surfaces and lack of any relief detail to cast shadows represent a conscious decision not to attempt the warm, mellow effect of brick veneer and bronze glass more typical of Ann Arbor office buildings in recent years.

In the interior, open office planning (with flexible partitions that can be moved as internal space and communication requirements change) has been carried out to an unusual degree. Only the central service core (bathrooms, stairs, elevator, storage and mechanical areas) has fixed walls. The building perimeter is free for office space, and all office partitions are related to the five-foot-square modules of the ceiling grid.

In conventional buildings, fixed walls contain electrical conduits; in the Sycor building the electrical connections come from the ceiling via hanging conduits that look like a vacuum cleaner hose.

The typical office unit is an engineer's work area, 20' by 20' with 5' partitions. It retains some of the visual openness of a big engineers' drafting room while the partitions provide storage space and some privacy. At Sycor these engineers' offices are arranged in programmatic,



Flexible hose-like electrical conduits allow office partitions to be rearranged at will.

rectilinear fashion; a different sort of organization might prefer a more informal arrangement.

Open office planning is nothing new, and many partitioning systems are on the market. What's unusual at Sycor is the extent to which it has been applied. Large work areas with many offices could be reorganized and rearranged, or new work spaces could be added over a weekend, without the disruption of construction. In the rapidly growing field of computer technology, such flexibility is extremely important. Functional arrangements are essential, and construction delays are more damaging in a fast-changing field.

Sycor's three-story, 90,000 square-foot research and development building was erected with the fast-track construction method, so that design details were being worked out after the basic structure was being built. Time elapsed from start (initial design work) to finish (moving in) was only eleven months, compared to two or three years for conventional construction. Finished cost per square foot (including partitions, carpeting, lighting, etc.) was \$45. □

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New vogue in facades: turn back the clock



Sue Zerwick and Skip Cole stand before the new front.

The new facade at Black Elk Supply, 120 W. Washington (former location of the Athenian restaurant), continues the trend toward opening up Ann Arbor store fronts that had been closed from public view by renovations in the 1960's.

Designer-builder Al Roebuck removed the imitation barn siding front installed by the Purple Pickle restaurant franchise close to ten years ago, revealing a leaded-glass upper window of the type once common in early 20th century storefronts. Working fast and furious to enclose the open front within a single day, Roebuck installed a new shop window reminiscent of traditional storefronts. Sharing the cost were the tenants (Black Elk owners Skip and Sue Cole, who sell outdoor gear in kit form) and landlady Sue Zerwick, a mother of eight who's enthusiastically getting into the real estate rehab business on a small scale.

Assorted notes

At the Liberty Inn, 112 W. Liberty, owner Jerry Heath has opened up the outside entrance to his second and third floors. The stairway also leads to the upper stories over The Round Table restaurant, which Round Table owner Evelyn Stack may remodel into apartments. Heath doesn't have any specific plays about using his space.

At Cafe Creole, on Catherine near Main, a newly-established Sunday jazz brunch brings an old Southern tradition up north to Yankeeland. When jazz musicians would play at plantation parties, they'd stay through Sunday morning and play during a late brunch. At Cafe Creole on Sundays from 11:30 to 4 there's a three-piece jazz band consisting of Morris Lawrence (Washtenaw Community College bandleader and music director) on clarinet and alto sax, Max Wood on bass, and singer-pianist Harriet McGovern. The menu features New Orleans egg dishes (from \$3 to \$4.25) and a champagne punch.

Those American flag banners lining Main Street are the work of the Downtown Business Development Association, and they'll be up through October. Downtown merchants are hardly the types to shirk physical work. On a rainy Saturday morning Tom DeFord of Muehlig's, John Spaide of Mast Shoes, and Mike Stuck of Wilkinson Luggage were on ladders installing the banners on light poles.

State Street tailor Vahan Basmajian has purchased the converted house at 311 East Liberty, which now contains Collected Works and Hair Affair. Basmajian, an Armenian (as are most Ann Arbor tailors), arrived here from Turkey twelve years ago and worked for Van Boven before setting up his own shop at 311 South State, over Wild Men's Shop.

His new first-floor shop on Liberty, called "Vahan's," will open in September with men's ready-to-wear clothing. Alterations currently comprise the bulk of his

business. He also tailors made-to-measure suits, and they aren't cheap. One tailor-made Vahan suit will set you back \$600. Not many Ann Arborites are into custom-made suits. But many are willing to pay \$12 to \$60 for alterations on their \$200 suits to keep up with changing styles or their own changing shapes.

The chrome and marble 1940's facade of the Wild Men's Shop, 311 South State, is giving way to a handsome new front of oak and bevelled glass, with an Edwardian look. The existing black and white marble below the show windows will remain as panels surrounded by an oak frame.

At the Ann Arbor Inn, Fourth and Huron, the ground-floor bar known as The Pub has become Hardy's, after Oliver Hardy of the Laurel and Hardy films. The management is the same (it's run by the Ann Arbor Inn), but the decor is brighter, with lots of white tile. A hard-edged Art Deco look in black, white, and brick red has replaced the dark wood grain and red surfaces. Nightly entertainment includes the Ron Brooks Trio on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, and a guitar soloist on Monday through Thursday. Food (served only at lunch) is from the menu of the adjacent Elias Brothers restaurant.

Michigan National Bank—Ann Arbor will open soon at 302 S. Main next to Dom's Bakery, pending final charter approval from the Federal Reserve and the U. S. Department of Justice.

Building owner Peter Vestevich commented, "Leasing this space completes the total renovation of the largest building renovation project in town. It cost \$1.3 million (including the installation of five racquetball courts in the Downtown Racquet Club): No other project comes close to that." Vestevich reports that the racquetball club, of which he is also part owner, has reached its goal of 1000 members, but is still seeking players for the morning (it opens at 6 a.m.) and early afternoon. □

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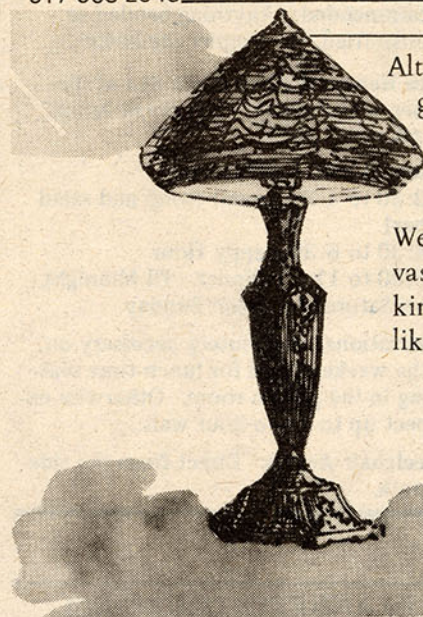
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RESTAURANTS

The Gandy Dancer Critiqued

THE GANDY DANCER
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Recommended: Anything broiled or crisp-fried, the simpler the better.

Price Range: Entrees \$6 to \$11 at dinner, a few cheaper choices at lunch. All credit cards.

Hours: 11:30-2:30 Lunch
2:30 to 4:30 Repast (soup and salad bar)
4:30 to 6:30 Happy Hour
5:00 to 11:00 Dinner. Til Midnight on Saturdays. Open Sunday.

Reservations: Absolutely necessary on the weekend and for lunch-time seating in the garden room. Otherwise expect up to a two-hour wait.

Wheelchair Access: Direct from the sidewalk.

By ANNETTE CHURCHILL



Inside the train station waiting room: oilcloth and elegant lighting.

Peter Yates

The minute you walk in the Gandy Dancer you get the feeling you are at a large party. A loud jazz piano fights to penetrate the raised voices of the excited guests and the clatter of restaurant service. On a Saturday night many customers are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and school proms. But why is there such a madcap quality to the heightened excitement in this place?

The Gandy Dancer is what is known in the trade as a "destination restaurant," the kind of place people plan in advance to visit, perhaps to mark an important occasion. They tend to dress up a bit to go there. Destination restaurants some-

times have qualities quite apart from the food they serve, and they often draw customers from a considerable distance away. The original Schuler's in Marshall used to be a destination restaurant for Ann Arborites. Going there was a compound event made up of a nice drive to a pretty town and a huge meal in a fine old building. Quantity was Schuler's schtik. Crazy carnivores headed there for steaks "yay thick."

But it can't be anything about the food at the Gandy Dancer that brings

people all the way over from Birmingham to eat here. They could get identical food at Charlie's Crab in the Troy Hilton, ten minutes from their homes. Chuck Muer owns the Gandy Dancer and fourteen Charlie's Crabs, most of them spotted about in the Midwest. "Chef Larry's Chowder" tastes the same at all of them and so does everything else on the menu. What draws people from afar to the Gandy Dancer is the building it is in and the railroad theme that ties the whole enterprise together.

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When the Gandy Dancer opened in the largely abandoned Michigan Central depot, lovers of this massive, beautifully proportioned stone building were pleased a new use had been found for it. If some people felt its Richardsonian monumentality was trivialized by its new function, even they had to admit the restaurant planners had done a good job. They left the outside of the building largely unchanged except for the erection of a canopy over the front door. Inside they had shown unusual restraint, leaving the basic structure unaltered, adding only a mezzanine for a cocktail lounge with a bar below it. For decor they had simply cleaned and painted the magnificent interior. The interesting old wooden ceiling was refinished, decades of sooty accumulation were removed from the high windows under the eaves, revealing their jewel-like stained glass. The wooden floor and the fireplace were retained.

We arrived without reservations at 7:30 on a Saturday night and were told, "We can't put you on board until 9:00 o'clock. Here is your boarding pass." A party of eight from Birmingham, with reservations they had held for a full week, were told they would have to wait an hour. Looking noticeably unhappy, they made their way to the bar, and so did we. In the Roundhouse Saloon, as it is called, I had one cocktail (\$2), my companion had none, and we ordered a hot hors d'oeuvre priced at \$3.75 per person. (The minimum order is two.) The small tray held three clams with different, unspectacular stuffings, a small cluster of scallops, and a nice pile of smelt, crisp-fried without batter and wonderfully hot. Shortly after nine o'clock we were called to our table and went in to dinner conscious of the fact that we had managed to spend \$11 including tip during that hour-and-a-half wait.

We decided to make our selections from the fish and seafood offerings the Gandy Dancer is famous for. It's a little difficult to take in the menu format all at once. The selections break down into a few concocted dishes like scallops provençales and bouillabaisse, "bucket dinners" for two involving different combinations of lobster, shellfish, potatoes, and corn, and the Fisherman's Catch—broiled fillets of many kinds of fish.

Our frantically busy waitress, starting with a breathless "O.K.," rattled off the selections available for the Fisherman's Catch as fast as Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers, finishing with an upward-inflected "O.K.?" The last two on the list were bluefish and halibut so we chose those, which we like anyway, with stewed tomatoes on the side. Our waiter brought some cotton-textured whole wheat bread, some extremely salty whipped butter, and urged us toward the salad bar, where we found each plate had a puddle of water in it. The salad bar selections were extremely limited, with many more condiments to sprinkle than vegetables to base a salad on. Dressings were indistinguishable from those found everywhere else. The red onion slices were soft and rotten tasting, and the bacon bits were real.

Our empty salad plates were snatched away not ten seconds after we'd taken the last bite from them, and the fish arrived immediately. It was excellent, done to exactly the right degree—sweet, fresh,

succulent, and very hot. The Gandy Dancer clearly has broiling and frying down to a science. With the fish came candy-sweet tartar sauce, the worst I've ever tasted.

For dessert we ordered a piece of cheesecake to share, which we rated 7½ on a cheesecake scale of 1 to 10. We ordered coffee to help us fight the chill of the freezing blast of an air conditioner right over our heads. We couldn't find out why it was on at all on that very cool May evening. When a train roared by, diners broke into applause, and when a recording of train calls went on saying Chicago, Niles, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, and Jackson, they applauded again. Dinner for two including no drinks or wine came to \$25.78, tip included.

On a return visit for lunch I tried the scallops provençales and found them lacking in the expected Mediterranean pungencies. They were served in a reason-

ably good tomato sauce. My companion ordered shrimp-stuffed fillet of scrod. Inside its texture was curiously mushy—uncooked, it turned out. It returned from a second trip to the broiler, done this time, but still mushy.

"Chef Larry's Chowder" has changed from the beef-flavored fish soup I remembered, and much for the better. It resembles Manhattan clam chowder with plenty of chewy chunks of pollock in it. It is really very good and, like everything at the Gandy Dancer, wonderfully hot. These choices with two drinks and two coffees came to \$17 including tip, but we could have lunched for much less on specials or chowder alone.

The Gandy Dancer is not the kind of place where you should assume there is a sensitive chef in the kitchen. There is a real Chef Larry whose name appears on dishes throughout the menu. But he is

a managerial chef who operates at the stratospheric levels of the Muer corporate empire. Part of his job is to develop the kinds of dishes that lend themselves to preparation by non-professionals. Drilled in the necessary techniques and procedures, these non-professionals put out a product that can be fairly good, considering.

But don't look for delicate nuances here. The system works best with the simplest fare—broiled and fried fish.

Prices are on the high side for Ann Arbor. The cheerful crowd and the splendid surroundings make eating at the Gandy Dancer feel like an occasion. Though it's not a party I want to attend often, once in a while it's fun. □



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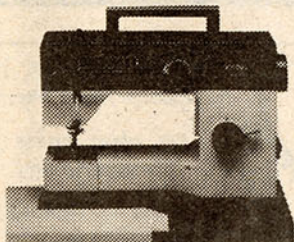


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ABOVE ANN ARBOR

Why Is It Hot in Summer?

By JIM LOUDON

Summer begins this year on June 21 at 7:56 p.m. That's the Summer solstice, the longest day of the year.

Two summer phenomena require an explanation—one, that it's hot in Summer and cold in Winter; and two, that days are long and nights are short in Summer, while in Winter it's the other way around.

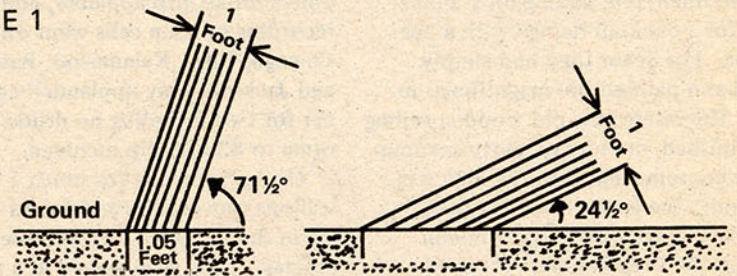
Believe it or not, long summer days are not the main cause of summertime heat. Proof: this month in the Northern Hemisphere, days are *longest* around the North Pole (24 hours) and *shortest* at the equator (12 hours), yet the Equator is far hotter than the Pole during any season.

Seasons (at least on present-day Earth) aren't due to changes in our distance from the Sun, either; the changes are too small. Proof: we were *closest* to the Sun this year (a mere 1.7% closer than our average distance) on January 4, and we'll be *farthest* July 3!

No, the main reason it's hotter in Summer is that the noon Sun is highest then. Figure 1 shows that when the Sun is low in the sky, its rays spread over much more ground and are thus much more diluted than when it's high. On any given date, the Sun is highest when it's due south (that's close to noon in most places, but Michigan insists on using a geographically incorrect time zone, and now Daylight Time on top of it, so in Ann Arbor it can be as late as 1:41 p.m. For the rest of this article I'd like to use "noon" to mean the moment the Sun is highest on any given date, whether or not it's 12:00 by our clocks). Most of any given day's ration of Solar heat is received in the few hours centered on noon; the rest of the day, the Sun is too low to contribute much.

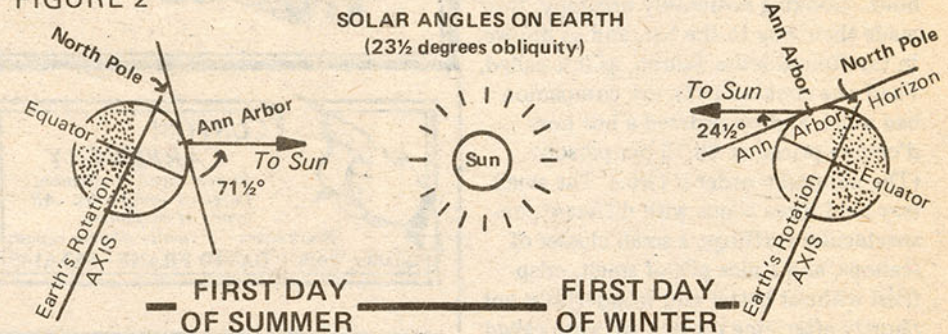
Sunlight is much more concentrated when the Sun is high above the horizon than when it's low. I've drawn the figure for the highest and lowest extremes of *noon* Sunlight as seen from Ann Arbor, but the Sun *away* from noon is lower (to zero degrees at Sunrise and Sunset) *every* day.

FIGURE 1



Earth on the first day of Summer, when the noon Sun is highest for the year. This is the view of the Earth-Sun relationship as seen from the plane of Earth's orbit, which, if shown in three dimensions, would stick up out of and go back into the plane of the paper. The diagrams are grossly out of scale, which is why the lines from Ann Arbor to the Sun seem not to point to the Sun. If the Earth-Sun distance could be shown to scale, they would. In reality, the Sun's diameter is about 100 times the Earth's diameter, and the Sun-Earth distance is about 100 times the Sun's diameter.

FIGURE 2



So how hot a day is depends mainly on how high the Sun is at noon. That varies with the time of year, and Figure 2 shows you why. It shows Earth at Ann Arbor noon on the first day of Summer (when the noon Sun is highest for the year) and again on the first day of Winter (when the noon Sun is lowest). At either moment, Ann Arbor's horizon is the perpendicular to an imaginary line from the center of the Earth through Ann Arbor's position on the surface. Figure 2 shows that the noon Sun on the first day of Summer is much higher above our horizon (71 1/2 degrees, to be exact) than on the first day of Winter (when it's only 24 1/2 degrees up).

Why is the noon Sun in Summer so

much higher than in Winter? Look at Figure 2 again, and you'll see the reason is that Earth's axis of rotation isn't perpendicular to our planet's orbit around the Sun. Instead, the axis is tilted by 23 1/2 degrees, which is called Earth's *obliquity*. If the obliquity were less, the seasons it causes would be less pronounced. On a planet with near-zero obliquity like Venus or Jupiter the noon Sun would be 48 degrees above Ann Arbor's horizon every day of the year.

How about places other than Ann Arbor? Look back at Figure 2. At the Equator, the noon Sun is *always* close to the overhead point, so every day is hot. □

Next month I'll explain phenomenon (2), the seasonal variation in day length.

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CALENDAR

TO PUBLICIZE EVENTS IN THE CALENDAR

Mail press releases and additional information to Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 206 South Main, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

With a very few exceptions, events must be within Ann Arbor. Always include the address and phone number of a reachable contact person. The calendar is published a month ahead; notices for September events, for example, must arrive in August. All material received by the 15th of the preceding month can be used as space permits; material submitted later may or may not get in.

CALENDAR CONTRIBUTORS

Harvey Hamburg is assistant professor at The University of Michigan Dearborn, where he teaches courses on art history and film. Mary Hunt edits the calendar and writes much of it. Evans Mirageas is an announcer and producer at WUOM; he hosts the "Music of the Masters" program.

Friday, June 1

Square Dancing with Shorty Hoffmeyer
6:30-9 p.m., Liberty Plaza at Liberty and Division.

Saturday, June 2

Festival and rummage sale, Kimberly Hills Neighborhood Association

Kids' games, clown make-up, live music and dance from the Hydra Dance Co. Baked goods and snacks.

11 a.m.-5 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence.

Friends Lake Community



This recreational cooperative founded by a group of Quaker families is located on 80 acres on Long Lake, northwest of Chelsea and next to the Waterloo Recreation Area. It offers an opportunity to enjoy its facilities at a very moderate cost to like-minded people who appreciate peace, quiet, and simple living—no transistor radios, no speedboats, and no hunting.

It sounds almost too good to be true: sandy beaches, a swimming raft, rowboats, canoes, and sailboats, camping, picnic and campfire areas, nature trails, blueberry picking and cross-country skiing. The first year cost is \$100 for two-parent families and couples, \$50 for one-parent families and individuals.

The area includes wooded hills, small swamps, and a half mile of lake frontage. The lake attracts sandhill cranes, heron, and wild ducks and geese.

Membership in the community is limited to 220, but openings are available. Sustaining members can take life leases on cabin sites within the area or on house lots on Waterloo Road. There is no formal connection with Quakers, and the community seeks members of any religious or racial group. The place maintains a quiet, contemplative ambience, according to member Bob Blood; fortunately Long Lake is too small to attract speedboats and waterskiers.

For more information, pick up a brochure at the Ann Arbor Public Library, the food co-ops, or Raupp Campfitters, or call Bob Blood at 769-0046.

Saturday, June 2

Hayden Festival noontime concert

See June 7 listing.

12 noon-1 p.m., Kerrytown (North Fifth Ave. at Detroit). Free.

Sunday, June 3

Potters' Guild Sale

Handmade pottery for sale at the Guild studio, with a better selection than what's available at Art Fair time.

9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Potters' Guild, 201 Hill Street.

Sunday, June 3

Ann Arbor Community Sing

An open sing of Hayden's "Lord Nelson Mass." Scores and refreshments provided by Ann Arbor Community Singers.

2-5 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State. Donation requested.

Monday, June 4

Hayden Festival noontime concert

See Wednesday, June 6 listing.

12 noon-1 p.m., South University at East University, near the Engin Arch. Free.

Wednesday, June 6

Hayden Festival noontime concert

The Chamber Orchestra plays Hayden's String Quartet, Opus 4 and Opus 64, followed by the Residential College Summer Players' production of Henry Fielding's "Tom Thumb—A Tragedy." Fielding's burlesque, intended for puppets "parodies the tragic style of the day," according to director Martin Walsh, who calls the 18th century genre "a remote ancestor of Monty Python."

The performances are part of the summer-long "Summer in the City" series of free noontime concerts produced by Kathy Gotshall and made possible by contributions from local businesses (Arbor-A, DBDA, John Leidy Shop, Wilkinson's, Handicraft, Hobbs & Black, H. S. Landau, Carl Brauer, and John Stegeman) and the musicians' union Music Performance Trust Fund derived from record royalties.

12 noon-1 p.m., Liberty Plaza at Liberty and Division. Free.

Thursday, June 7 through Saturday, June 9

Greek Festival



Dino, leader of The Continentals bouzouki band appearing at the Greek Festival

Three days of food, drink, and dance in the annual St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church Greek Festival. John Kokales chairs the festival this year.

sale of traditional Greek pastries. Luncheons (\$3.25; \$2.50 for senior citizens on Saturday from 1 to 4) and dinners (\$4) include shish-kebab, Greek barbeque chicken, and gyros-



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Etching.....	Tues. Eve.	7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Starts June 12
Lithography.....	Tues. Morn.	9:30 - 12:00 a.m.	Starts June 12
Lithography.....	Thurs. Eve.	7:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Starts June 14

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CALENDAR/continued

style beef and lamb. There's beer, retsina wine, and ouzo (a clear liqueur) to drink. Beginning at 8 p.m. is Greek folk dancing (everyone can join in some of the later dances) to the bouzouki band of Dino and the Continentals, hosted by WUOM announcer Evans Mirageas.

11 a.m.-midnight in the huge tent next to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 414 N. Main. \$1.50 admission after 6:30.

Thursday, June 7

Hayden Festival noontime concerts

The Harmonie Ensemble wind octet plays Hayden's "Sechs Feldparteien," followed by the burlesque drama "Tom Thumb" (see listing for June 6).

12 noon-1 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division. Free.

Thursday, June 7 through Saturday, June 9

"The Fantasticks"

What? Another production of the Fantasticks? The answer is a joyous yes! This musical tale has been running on and off Broadway for decades, and it still hasn't lost its charm. It is an ideal vehicle for young, energetic performers, and Russ Collins' group has youth and energy in abundance.

7 p.m. dinner in the Michigan League (Cornish hen is the entree); 8:30 performance in the Mendelssohn Theater. To reserve tickets (\$16 for dinner and theater), call 665-0038.

Friday, June 8

Hayden Festival noontime concert

See listing for June 7.

12 noon-1 p.m., State Street at North University, across from Nickels Arcade. Free.

Friday, June 8

Jazz concert sponsored by Eclipse Jazz

6:30-9 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division. Free.

Friday, June 8 and Saturday, June 9

Gilbert & Sullivan's "Trial by Jury" and excerpts from other shows



In this 1½-hour benefit for the Mendelssohn Theater renovation fund, the U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society presents Gilbert and Sullivan's very popular second collaboration, a one-act courtroom farce about a breach of promise suit. Gilbert's lyrics reveal the blatant prejudices of jurors and townspeople alike. The romantic interest centers on the attractive plaintiff. In the show's most famous tune, "When I, good friends, was called to the bar," the judge reveals the reason for his rise to power: marrying the daughter of a rich and influential man.

Other song-and-dance numbers presented in the benefit include the Overture from the Mikado, "A tenor can't do himself justice," and the Patter Trio from Ruddigore. Gilbert was famous for his patter songs; this trio is one of the best, according to show director Kathy Platzman.

7:30 and 9 p.m. both nights in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. Tickets (\$3) available at the door, by mail order to Gilbert & Sullivan Tickets, 600 Peninsula Court, Ann Arbor 48105 with a stamped, self-addressed envelope, or at the Mendelssohn Box Office, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. starting June 4.

Friday, June 8

"Top Hat" (Mark Sandrich, 1935)
"Gold Diggers of 1933" (Busby Berkely, 1933) at Cinema 2

"Top Hat" was one of Hollywood's top musicals of the thirties, and the incomparable Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers can still take us away from it all with a fantasy in formal attire when they dance "Cheek to Cheek." In "Gold Diggers" Ginger Rogers leads the chorus, clad only in large, strategically-placed coins, as they sing and dance, "We're in the money; we've got a lot of what it takes to get along." The obsession with money is not surprising in Depression escapist fare. Here even Berkely's monumental production numbers, invariably celebrations of sex and opulence, are tinged with serious awareness of the era's grimness. Joan Blondell and Ginger Rogers are the tough gals, Ruby Keeler is the sweet one, and all are intent on ending their troubles by marrying millionaires. — H.H.

"Top Hat" 7:30 p.m., "Gold Diggers" 9:30 p.m., Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50, or \$2.50 for double feature.

Friday, June 8

Chamber music

Andrew Anderson continues his series of chamber music concerts which run throughout the summer. These free events showcase Mr. Anderson's talents as pianist, but he shares the limelight with many other area performers for a pleasant evening of chamber music. — E.M.

8 p.m. in the Pendelton Room, second floor, Michigan Union. Free.

Saturday, June 9

Tour of Dexter with the Washtenaw County Historical Society

The Historical Society's annual tour goes to Dexter this year, visiting the Dexter Historical Society's museum, the grounds of Judge Samuel Dexter's Greek Revival mansion, St. James Episcopal Church, and other historic sights. A chicken dinner at the Society's Barton Dam Powerhouse (in the process of becoming its museum) winds up the day.

1:30: tour buses leave Great Lakes Federal Savings parking lot at Division and Washington, downtown Ann Arbor. 5 p.m. (approximately): dinner at the powerhouse. Tickets: \$9 donation for tour and dinner, \$5 for children 12 and under. Dinner only: \$7 and \$4 respectively. Phone reservations (663-5281) until June 6.

Saturday, June 9

Hayden Festival noontime concert

The Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Carl Daehler, performs Hayden's Lo Speziale Overture, Concerto No. 3 for flute and oboe, and Symphony No. 7 in C.

12 noon-1 p.m., Kerrytown (North Fifth Avenue at Detroit). Free.

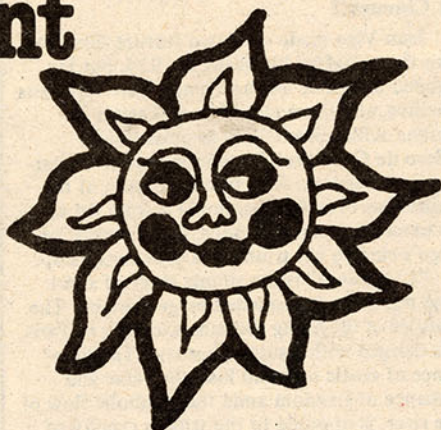
Sunday, June 10

Sunday morning bicycle ride with the Ann Arbor Bicycle League

A leisurely outing for singles and families to a destination within ten or fifteen miles of town. "The fastest pace is slow," says AABL member Reuben Chapman. Riders rendezvous for breakfast at a restaurant or park.

Starts at 8 a.m. at the Farmers' Market. Destination still undecided; call Ann Hunt (761-1147) for whether to bring a picnic breakfast or restaurant money.

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Registration underway except for Instructional Swim classes which have a special registration time.

For complete details, see the Summer Program Brochure available at schools, libraries, city and county buildings, and many local banks.

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Ann Arbor Recreation Department

Tuesday, June 12 and every following Tuesday in June

Fun Run sponsored by the Ann Arbor Track Club

A variety of track events geared toward families and stressing personal goals rather than competition, including the fifty-yard dash, the mile, relays, and novelty events.

7 p.m. at the Ferry Field track on South State, Free.

Wednesday, June 13

Piano recital with Randall Benway

Pianist Randall Benway's recital is part of the Pendelton Room Music at Midweek series, a summer-long presentation with many local artists and everything from folk music to electronic music. Mr. Benway, the winner of numerous awards, has performed frequently on WUOM. He's quite a versatile performer with catholic tastes in programming. — E.M.

12 noon in the Pendelton Room, second floor, Michigan Union.

Thursday, June 14

"Shoot the Piano Player" (Francois Truffaut, 1960)

"The Mother and the Whore" (Jean Eustache, 1973) at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative

"Shoot the Piano Player," an early Truffaut film, remains one of his best. Charles Aznavour plays the cafe pianist who seeks to withdraw from the world's entanglements—only to be caught up in Truffaut's incongruously comic variant on the gangster genre. The director's style is evident in the light-hearted yet wistful handling of male-female relationships and in the twisting of moods.

Truffaut's favorite actor, Jean-Pierre Leaud, stars in "The Mother and the Whore," which Jean Eustache wrote expressly to suit Leaud's impishly sophisticated talents. The action, or the conversations, take place in the cafes and bedrooms of the St. Germain des Pres area of Paris. The women of the title are actually two mistresses of Leaud, one who supports him and the other, a fragile but blunt-spoken beauty who leads a life of empty promiscuity. They eventually form a listless, though sporadically violent menage à trois. If you enjoy French films for their talk, talk about the ways of love and disillusionment, then this lovingly excessive film experience is for you. Incidentally, this extraordinary film runs 3½ hours. — H.H.

"Piano Player" 7 p.m., "Mother" 8:30 p.m., Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50, or \$2.50 for double feature.

Friday, June 15

U-M International Folk Dance Club summertime performance

Part of the Liberty Sunset Series of free Friday evening performances at Liberty Plaza, sponsored by Ann Arbor Tomorrow and the State Street Area Association and funded by the musicians' union Music Performance Trust Fund (which comes from record royalties).

7:30-11 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division, Free.

Friday, June 15

U-M Astronomical Film Festival

Jim Loudon lectures on "The Shuttle and Space Colonization: Latest Prospects and Problems." New information on a hot topic among space freaks.

7:30 p.m., Auditorium 3, Modern Language Building, Washington at Ingalls. Free.

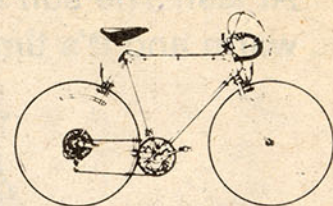
Sunday, June 17

The Antiques Market

Over 225 dealers in antiques and collectibles, guaranteed for authenticity by the promoter.

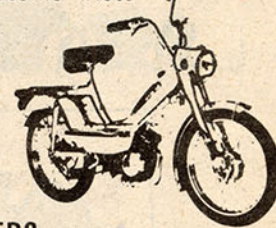
8 a.m.-4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Road near Pleasant Lake Road. \$1 admission, free parking.

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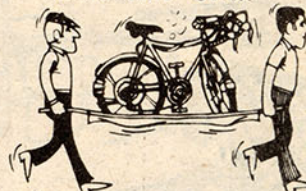
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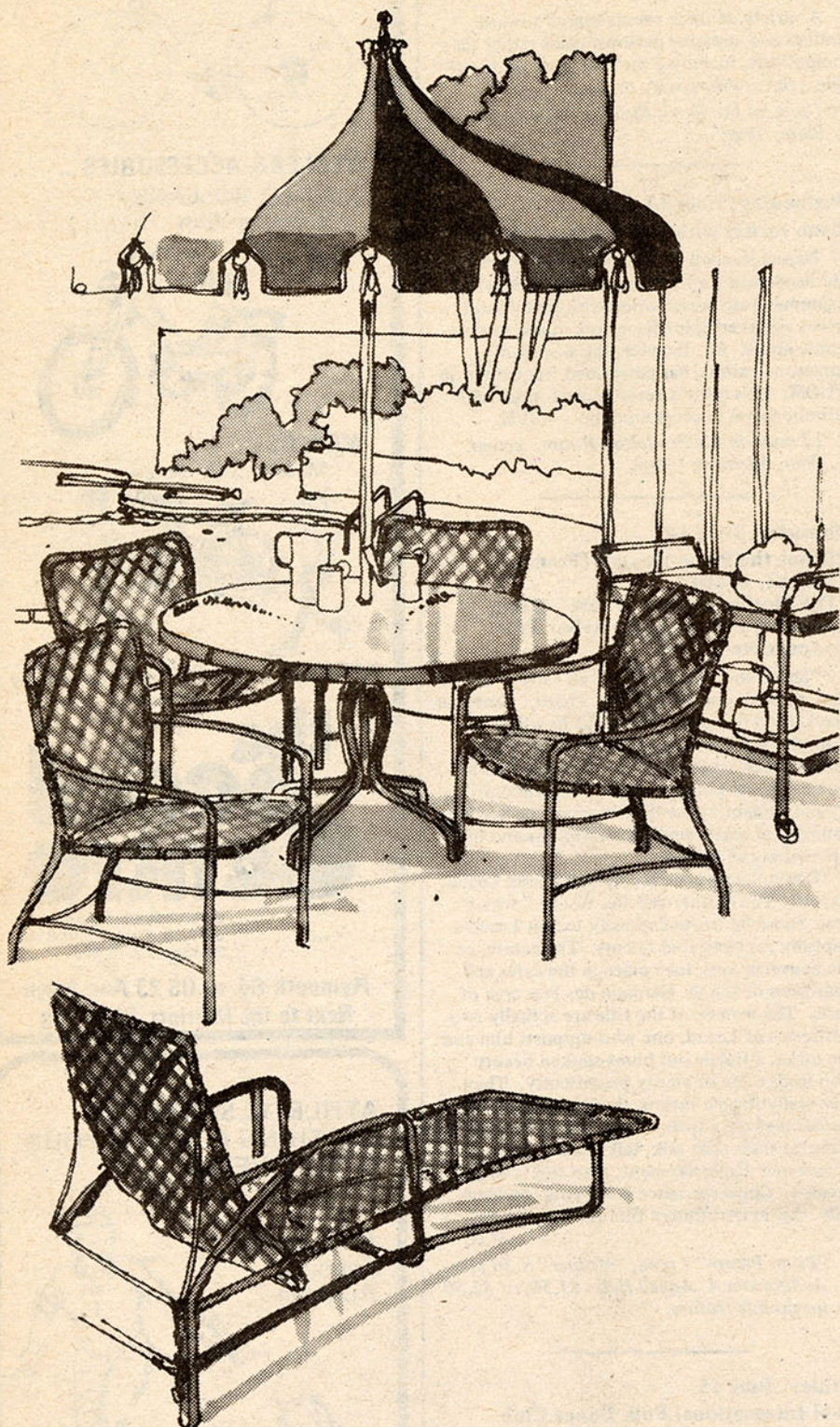
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CALENDAR /continued

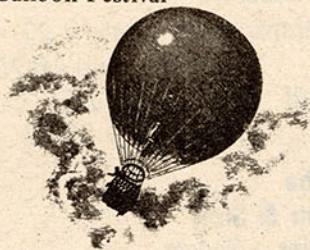
Sunday, June 17

"L'Atalante" (Jean Vigo, 1934)
"Zero de Conduite" (Jean Vigo, 1933),
at Cinema 2

Jean Vigo made only two feature films and two shorts before his death in 1934, but his belated influence on the French New Wave was decisive, and these two films still stand as unique achievements of a singular vision. "Zero de Conduite" is a poetic appeal to anarchy and freedom. The film's criticism of the oppressive French educational system led to its immediate ban in France, but the spirit of Vigo's cinema has triumphed over censorship. "L'Atalante" is the simple story of a girl who marries a free-spirited barge captain. The realities of life along the canals leading to Paris are charged with a surreal beauty. The innocence of erotic love and loss, the value and romance of freedom amid the symbolic flow of the river, is opposed to the stifling cruelty of the life on its banks. Vigo died at the age of 29, and was buried a few hours before the film's premiere. — H.H.

"L'Atalante" 7:30 p.m., "Zero de Conduite" 9:30 p.m. at Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50, or \$2.50 double feature.

Friday, June 22 through Sunday, June 24
Pinckney Balloon Festival



Hot air balloon races, plus pancake breakfasts, chicken dinners, music, dancing, beer, arts and crafts festival and flea market.

Hell Creek Riding Ranch, 10820 Cedar Lake Road, Pinckney.

Friday, June 22

Chamber music by the Caener String Trio
7-9 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division.
Free.

Friday, June 22

"Jazz on a Summer's Day" at Cinema 2



Directed by Bert Stern, 1960. This brilliant tribute to the delights of the Newport Jazz Festival was easily ignored in its time, when documentaries on the music scene were not considered serious filmmaking. Today we can truly appreciate this successful effort to capture the '58 festival in sight and sound. Filmed in the lovely hazy colors of summer, with vacationers lolling on rooftops overlooking the shimmering sea and sailboats gliding to the music of Thelonus Monk, Eric Dolphy, Louis Armstrong and Sonny Stitt in performance, this is a nostalgic treat for enthusiasts of both jazz and documentary film. Also: a 1927 filmed performance of Bessie Smith. — H.H.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50.

Saturday, June 23

Plymouth Mall Family Jog



The Martin Read family ready to jog.

The merchants of Plymouth Mall are sponsoring this family event. The two-mile course starts at the Parke-Davis Warner-Lambert building at Plymouth Road and Huron Parkway and goes through the North Campus without crossing any streets. Joggers can go around as many times as they like; completion of each circuit entitles them to one ticket for the drawing for prizes donated by the Plymouth Mall merchants sponsoring this event. All family members are encouraged to attend. Each participant gets a souvenir t-shirt with his or her computer scanner photo.

9 a.m. at Plymouth Mall, Plymouth and Nixon Roads. Register with Plymouth Mall merchants (fee: \$3).

Sunday, June 24

Sunday morning bicycle ride
with the Ann Arbor Bicycle League

See listing for June 10 for details.

Tuesday, June 26

"The Merry Widow" (Erich von Stroheim, 1925)
"Sherlock, Junior" (Buster Keaton, 1924)
"Seven Chances" (Buster Keaton, 1925)
at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative

Silent masterpieces. Von Stroheim's rebellious, ill-fated genius transformed "The Merry Widow" operetta into a cynical study involving dark obsessions and sexual fetishes. The result was a commercially successful film, starring Mae Murray and John Gilbert, that is deft and subtle, not mindlessly "merry."

Following are two hour-length, offbeat comedies by Buster Keaton. Keaton's mature mastery of his medium is apparent in "Sherlock Junior." Here, as a theatre projectionist who dreams himself into on-screen situations, Keaton has great fun provoking mad manipulations and dislocations of time and space. The final sequences of "Seven Chances" involved extremely dangerous stunts, but Keaton's creed was to always put his own acrobatic body on the line, and to film all in long shot with little possibility of retake. The plot: Buster can inherit \$7 million—all he has to do is get married. He's got seven hours to do it. — H.H.

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1½ days: June 16 (9-4pm), June 30 (9-12). Fee incl. text & materials: \$40. Briarwood. Register: 973-9286.

CAREER PLANNING SERVICES

"Merry Widow" 7 p.m., "Sherlock Junior" 9 p.m., "Seven Chances" 10 p.m. Auditorium A, Angell Hall. Free.

Wednesday, June 27
Organ music festival



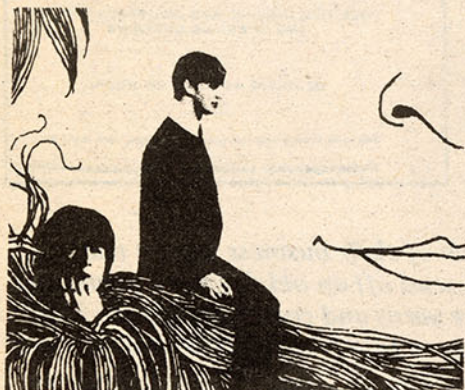
Beginning tonight—a miniature festival of organ music. The organ department at the U-M is recognized as one of the finest in the nation. Three students present degree recitals on the Frieze Memorial Organ in Hill Auditorium, three nights running. Everything from Baroque to modern, and what's more, it's free. Tonight—Brady Johnson. — E.M.
8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free.

Wednesday, June 27
Outdoor concert with the Ann Arbor Recreation Department Summer Civic Band

8 p.m. in front of the West Park band shell. Free.

Thursday, June 28
"Let It Be" (The Beatles, 1970)
"Beatlemania" and "Magical Mystery Tour" (The Beatles, 1964-67), 8:40 only at Ann Arbor Film Cooperative

Friday, June 29
"I Want to Hold Your Hand" (Robert Zameckis, 1978)
"A Hard Day's Night" (Richard Lester, 1964), at Cinema 2



Here is a grand opportunity to take two nights out to inundate yourself again in the phenomenon that is fast slipping away from us—Beatlemania. The programs range from documentary coverage of early performances to the brilliant first wedding of the Fab Four and Film under the masterful guidance of Richard Lester, to the floundering psychedelic fantasy by the boys themselves without Lester ("Mystery Tour"), to the Beatles' last stand in the studio ("Let It Be"), to an under-rated homage by director Zameckis to the era of hysteria—a tale of six high school students in quest of their heroes during their first American tour. — H.H.

"Let It Be" 7 and 10:20 p.m., "Beatlemania" and "Tour" 8:40 June 28. Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50, or \$2.50 double feature.

"Hand" 7:30 p.m., "Night" 9:30 p.m. June 29. Auditorium A, Angell Hall. \$1.50, or \$2.50 double feature.

Thursday, June 28
Organ music festival

Music for organ again tonight as Peter Van Eenam presents a recital. The instrument is an Aeolian-Skinner, one of the largest in our area and specially designed for the auditorium. — E.M.

8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free.

Thursday, June 28
Movies for preschoolers

A half hour of short films: "Millions of Cats," "Foolish Frog," "Changes Changes," and "Chicken Soup with Rice."

11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. at the Ann Arbor Public Library meeting room. 10 a.m. for groups of 10 or more. Free. Get tickets ahead of time at the Youth Department, starting June 13.

Friday, June 29
Country music with "Footloose"

7-9 p.m., Liberty Plaza, Liberty at Division. Free.

Friday, June 29
Organ music festival

Our organ music festival for June concludes tonight with a concert by Janis Roesse. The acoustics of Hill Auditorium are regarded as near-ideal, and even on the hottest night of the year there seems to be a cool breeze moving through the hall. One hint: if it's open, the best place to sit for an organ recital is in the balconies.

8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free.

All Season
Canoe Livery at Argo Park, Canoe and Bike Rentals at Gallup Park

The City of Ann Arbor's two canoe rentals are open for this season. Prices range from \$2.75 for two hours to \$7 for seven hours, with a \$10 cash deposit (no checks) and driver's license required. The Argo Park livery also offers package trips (including one-way motor vehicle transportation) to Gallup Park, Delhi, Dexter, and Portage Lake. Row boats, car-top carriers, and long-term canoe rentals are also available.

The Gallup Park rental facility rents bicycles (single seat and tandem) at prices that are roughly \$1/hour. For more information call the Argo Canoe Livery (668-7441) or Gallup Park Rental (662-9319), or pick up the blue schedule of hours and rates at City Hall or the Public Library.

ARGO (1055 Longshore): Sat., Sun. & holidays, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., noon-8 p.m. GALLUP (at Fuller Road entrance to Gallup Park): Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Mon.-Fri. 2 p.m.-7 p.m.

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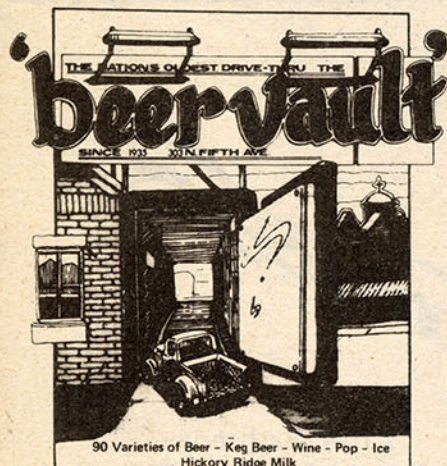
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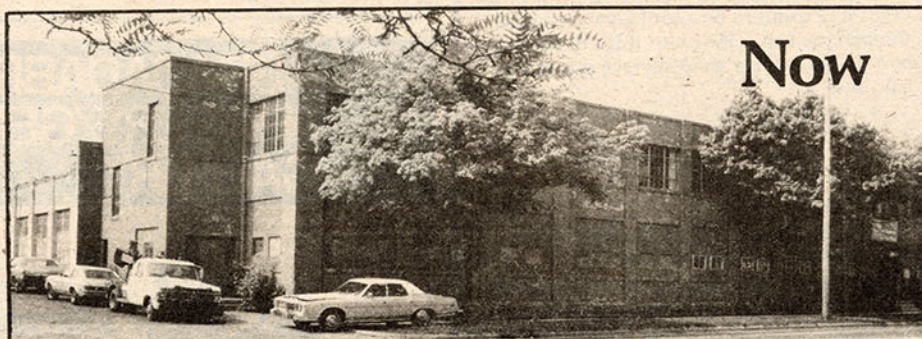
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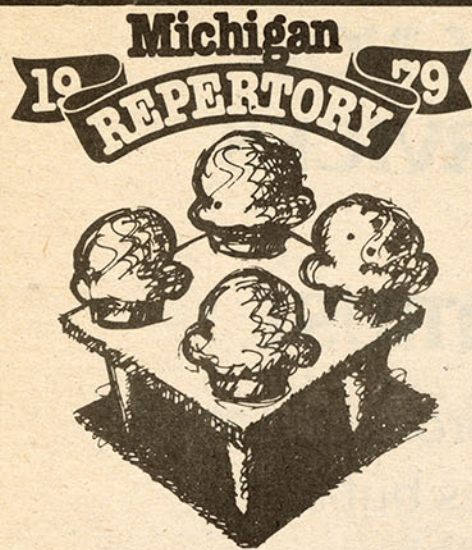
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Series Sale. Full Season Subscriptions are on sale now by Mail Order only. Orders will be filled in order of receipt. The Subscription Office will open for over-the-counter series sales on July 2, 1979.

Due to this year's scheduling, your series order will be filled within the same price range, but not necessarily in the same seats for all four shows.

Dual Orders. When ordering season tickets with other persons, please use separate order forms and mail together. This assures you of accurate recording of your subscription.

Individual Tickets. Tickets for individual shows go on sale Monday, July 2, 1979. Single show orders will be filled after all series orders, with any remaining tickets available. Tickets for individual shows are also available for out-of-town residents through all J.L. HUDSON Ticket Services. HUDSON'S may be used only during PTP's same Ticket Office hours.

Charges. MASTER CHARGE and VISA accepted on mail orders only.

Tickets Mailed Out. Subscriber's tickets for all plays will be mailed on June 29, 1979. If a stamped, self-addressed return envelope is not enclosed with order, tickets will be automatically held for pick-up at the Power Center Box Office.

Ticket Exchanges. We regret that no refunds can be made. We will assist subscribers in exchanging tickets when possible. No ticket exchanges on days of performances. No exchanges among shows.

Office Hours. The PTP Ticket Office is located in the Michigan League. Hours beginning July 2, 1979: Monday-Friday, Noon-5pm. Power Center Box Office opens only dates of performances from 6-8pm. Matinee dates from 12 noon - 2 pm.

Curtain Times. Evenings at 8:00pm; Matinees at 2:00pm. Latecomers may not be seated until a suitable interval.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
POWER CENTER Performance Calendar						
July 15 2PM Hay Fever 8PM Wilderness	July 16 8PM Much Ado	July 17 8PM Wedding Band	July 18 8PM Hay Fever	July 19 8PM Wilderness	July 20 8PM Hay Fever	July 21 8PM Wilderness
July 22 2PM Much Ado 8PM Wedding Band	July 23	July 24	July 25	July 26	July 27	July 28
Ann Arbor Street Art Fair						
July 29	July 30	July 31	August 1 8PM Wilderness	August 2 8PM Hay Fever	August 3 8PM Wedding Band	August 4 8PM Much Ado
August 5 2PM Much Ado	SUBSCRIPTION TICKET PRICES					
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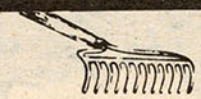

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